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THE HINDU

INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

FRIDAY, JULY 29, 2022

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Bommai launches slew of welfare schemes to mark govt.'s anniversary
page 6

Congress leader Adhir's remark on President triggers furore
page 12

Aware of reports of arrival of Chinese vessel in Colombo, says MEA
page 13

Gill, Chahal help India sweep ODI series against WI
page 18

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Two arrested in Praveen murder case

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MANGALURU

The Dakshina Kannada police on Thursday arrested two persons in connection with the murder of 32-year-old BJP Yuva Morcha leader Praveen Nettaru at Bellare, Sullia taluk, on Tuesday.

Superintendent of Police Rishikesh Sonawane gave their names as Zakir, 29, of Savanur, Puttur taluk, and Shafiq, 27, of Bellare.

They were produced before the jurisdictional magistrate at Puttur, who remanded them in 14 days judicial custody.

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, who visited Praveen's family on Thursday evening and handed over compensation of ₹25 lakh from the government and ₹25 lakh from the party, stated that his government was ready to try "Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath model of governance" too, if need be, to crush forces disturbing communal harmony. He had stated this in Bengaluru too earlier. Mr. Bommai termed the murder as a "terrorist act" and said the government would do everything possible to break the structures of organisations behind the heinous crime.

RELATED REPORTS ▸ PAGES 4, 5
MAN KILLED IN SURATHKAL; BAN ORDERS IMPOSED ▸ PAGE 5

METROPLUS ▸ PAGE 21

There has never been a better time for sports in India: Modi

Prime Minister inaugurates the FIDE 44th Chess Olympiad in Tamil Nadu capital

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

"In sports there are no losers. There are winners and there are future winners," declared Prime Minister Narendra Modi as he inaugurated the FIDE 44th Chess Olympiad in Chennai on Thursday. Highlighting India's recent successes in the international sporting arena, Mr. Modi pointed out that sports brought the world together during the century's biggest pandemic.

Noting that the most prestigious tournament in chess had for the first time come to India – the home of chess – during the 75th year of freedom from colonial rule, Mr. Modi said there had never been a better time for sports in India than the present. The country had its best ever performances in the Olympics, Paralympics and Deaflympics.

"We achieved glory even in sports where we had not won earlier. Today sports is seen as a great profession of choice. India's sporting culture is becoming stronger due to the perfect mix of two important factors - energy of youth and enabling environment," he said.

He noted that talented youngsters, especially from small towns and villages, were bringing glory and it was heartening to see women at the lead of India's sports revolution.

Right move: Prime Minister Narendra Modi holding the Chess Olympiad Torch along with Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin, Grandmasters Viswanathan Anand, R. Praggnanandhaa, D. Gukesh and International Master S. Vijayalakshmi. • B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

"The post-COVID period made us realise the importance of fitness and wellness – both physical and mental. That is why it is important to encourage sporting talents and invest in sporting infrastructure," he said.

Applauding the organisers for managing the event within a short time, Mr. Modi noted it was for the first time in three decades the tournament was being organised in Asia with the participation of the highest number of players and teams. Besides, for the first time the Olympiad had a torch relay, across 75 iconic locations, travelling over 27,000 km.

The Olympiad has come to Tamil Nadu, the "chess powerhouse of India", Mr. Modi said.

"Tamil Nadu is home to the finest minds, vibrant culture and the oldest language in the world, Tamil," said Mr. Modi, who was dressed in a shirt, dhoti and a shawl (with black and white checked borders).

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin said it was matter of pride that India was hosting the international event.

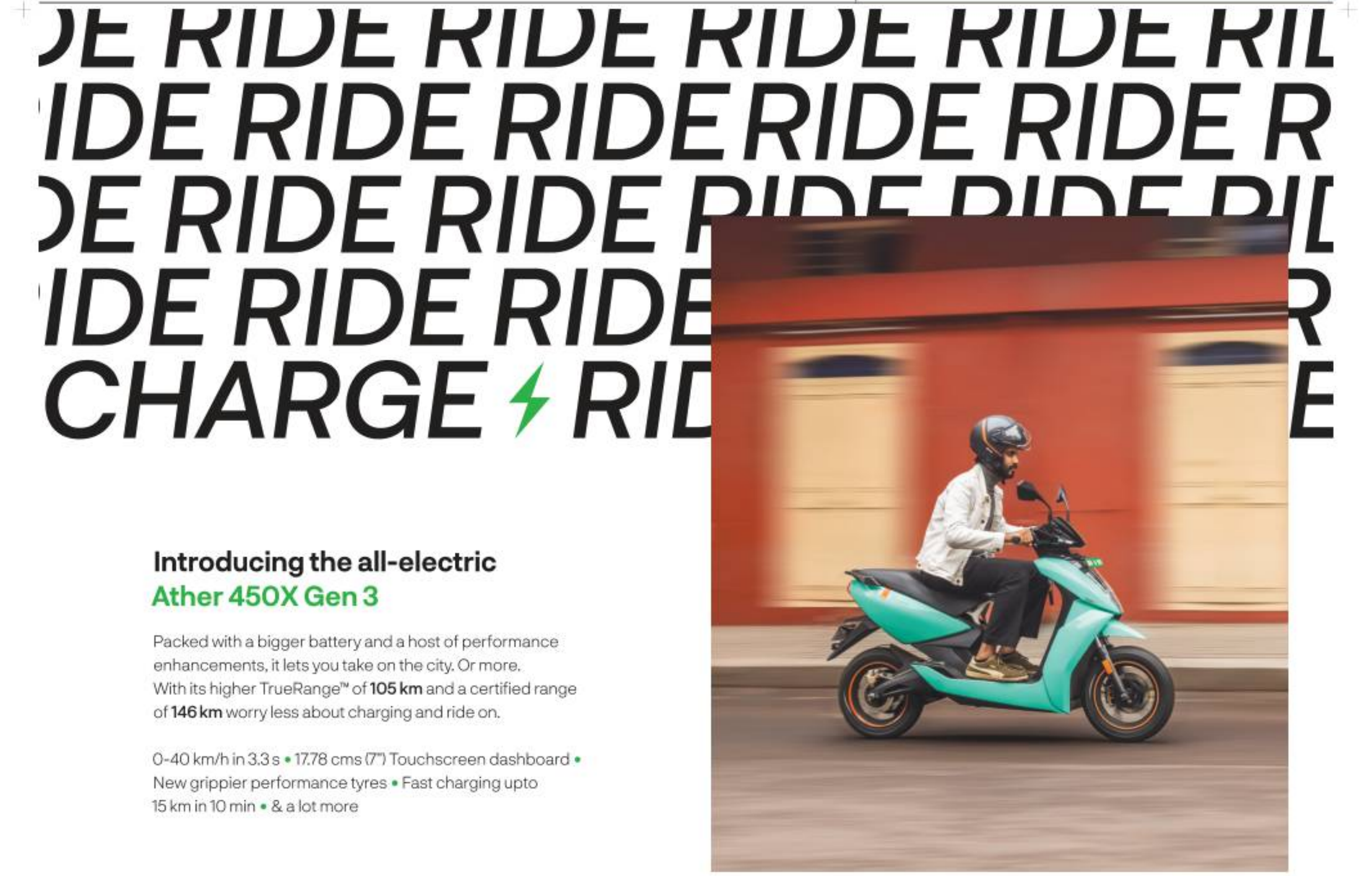
CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 12
MORE REPORTS ▸ PAGE 17

Pakistan pulls out of event

KALLOL BHATTACHERJEE
NEW DELHI

A war of words broke out between India and Pakistan on Thursday after the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Islamabad announced that the Pakistani team would not participate in the Chess Olympiad in Chennai as the torch relay of the event passed through Jammu and Kashmir.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 12



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Text & Context

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NEWS IN NUMBERS

Ad expediture

54 The % used for media advocacy out of the total expenditure for the 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' scheme between 2014 and 2022, according to the Women and Child Development Ministry. Women and Child Development Minister Smriti Irani informed Parliament that ₹401 crore out of ₹740.18 crore was assigned for media advocacy for this scheme. The critical elements of the scheme included nationwide media and advocacy campaigns and the multi-sectoral interventions in selected 405 districts. PTI

Twitter URLs blocked

1,122 The number of Twitter uniform resource locators (URLs) blocked on the IT Ministry's directions up to June this year, Minister of State for Electronics and IT Rajeev Chandrasekhar informed Parliament. In line with the objective of ensuring open, safe, trusted and accountable Internet for all users, the IT Ministry issued directions to Twitter to block URLs, including accounts under the provision of section 69A of the IT Act, 2000, the Minister said in a written reply in the Lok Sabha. PTI

Green energy projects

6.2 In $ billion, the amount to be invested by State-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) and its partners in green energy projects to produce carbon-free hydrogen and green ammonia in the country as part of an ambitious decarbonisation drive, officials said. The ONGC has signed a pact with Greenko and it will set up 5.5-7 GW of solar and wind power projects, and use electricity generated from such plants to split water in electrolyers to produce green hydrogen. PTI

Seaweed production

9.7 In million tonnes, India's potential in producing seaweed per year, as against the paltry 34,000 tonnes it produced in 2021, according to the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) which has identified 342 potential sites in the country for cultivating marine plants and algae. The CMFRI has laid emphasis on upscaling seaweed farming in India as it has the potential of being a major contributor to the global seaweed production which is worth billions of dollars, the institute said in a release. PTI

Gun profits

1 In $ billion, the amount made by gun manufacturers in the U.S. from selling AR-15-style guns over the past decade, according to a House investigation unveiled on Wednesday. Those profits have come as the weapons have been used in mass shootings that have horrified the nation, including one that left 10 people dead at a grocery store in Buffalo. Some ads mimic popular first-person shooter video games, sale tactics described as deeply disturbing and exploitative by Democratic Representative Carolyn Maloney of New York. AP

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

EXPLAINER

After the referendum: The challenges of a power grab in Tunisia

What led to the political turmoil in Tunisia? Why did President Kais Saied bring in the new Constitution and what are its prominent features?

THE GIST

- The Arab Spring protests began in Tunisia in December 2010, leading to the fall of the regime of Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, who had been in power since 1987. Ben Ali had to flee the country in the face of the mass uprising.
- In the democratic elections, the Islamist Ennahda party, which has ideological links to the pan-Islamist Muslim Brotherhood movement, emerged as a main political force in the country, which upset the secular sections.
- As unrest was spreading, President Kais Saied moved in, sacking the Ennahda-backed Prime Minister Hichem Mechich and suspending Parliament, plunging the country into a Constitutional crisis.

STANLY JOHNY

The story so far: Tunisian voters have approved a new Constitution that would turn the country back into a presidential system, institutionalising the one-man reign of President Kais Saied, who suspended the elected Parliament and awarded more powers to himself last year. According to preliminary results, 94.6% voters backed the new Constitution in the referendum, which saw only 30% turnout. Most opposition parties, who called Mr. Saied's power grab a coup, had boycotted the vote. While Mr. Saied has welcomed the result, his critics have warned that the new Constitution would erase whatever democratic gains Tunisia has made since the 2011 Arab Spring (Jasmine) revolution and push the country back into an authoritarian slide.

What happened to the Arab Spring?

Among the countries that saw popular protests bringing down dictatorships in 2011, Tunisia was the only one that witnessed a successful transition to democracy. The Arab Spring protests began in Tunisia in December 2010, leading to the fall of the regime of Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, who had been in power since 1987. Ben Ali had to flee the country in the face of the mass uprising. Quickly, protests spread to other Arab countries such as Egypt, Libya, Bahrain, Yemen and Syria. While protesters brought down the 30-year-long dictatorship of Hosni Mubarak in Egypt, the revolution did not last long in that country.

In 2013, the military seized power toppling the elected government of President Mohammed Morsi, a Muslim Brotherhood leader. In Libya, the protests against Mohammar Gaddhafi slipped into a civil war, which saw a military intervention by the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO). The NATO intervention toppled the Gaddhafi regime (the Libyan leader was later assassinated), but the country fell into chaos and anarchy, which continue to haunt it even today.

In Bahrain, the Shia majority country ruled by a Sunni monarchy, neighbouring Saudi Arabia sent troops to crush protests in Manama's Pearl Square. In Yemen, President Ali Abdullah Saleh had to relinquish power, but the country fell into a civil war, leading to the rise of the Shia Houthi rebels, who now control capital Sanah, and the subsequent Saudi attack on the impoverished country. In Syria, protests turned into a proxy civil war, with President Bashar al-Assad's rivals backing his enemies, and his allies, including Hezbollah, Iran and Russia, backing the regime. President Assad seems to have won the civil war, for now. Tunisia was the only country that saw a peaceful transition to democracy, and with the new Constitution, it is witnessing another transition.

What led to the political crisis in Tunisia?

The 2014 Constitution put in place a mixed parliamentary and presidential system. Both the President and Parliament were directly elected by the voters. The President was to oversee the military and foreign affairs, while the Prime Minister, elected with the support of a majority of lawmakers, was in charge of the day-to-day affairs of governance.

In the democratic elections, the Islamist Ennahda party, which has ideological links to the pan-Islamist Muslim Brotherhood movement, emerged as a main political force in the country, which upset the secular sections. The polity remained fractious. The country had nine governments between 2011 and 2021. Its economy was already in a bad shape, and the COVID-19 crisis made it worse. Tunisia has one of the highest per capita COVID death rates in the world. Amid the mounting economic and healthcare crisis, protests broke out against the government in July last year. Protesters stormed the offices of the Ennahda, the ruling party.

As unrest was spreading, Mr. Saied moved in, sacking the Ennahda-backed Prime Minister Hichem Mechich and suspending Parliament, plunging the country into a constitutional crisis. Under the 2014 Constitution, such crises should be settled by a constitutional court, but the court had not been formed yet. This allowed the President a free hand to rule the country by decrees. He declared a state of emergency, appointed a Prime Minister to run the government, dissolved the suspended Parliament earlier this year while simultaneously moving to rewrite the Constitution, awarding himself more powers.

What are the key changes in the new Constitution?

In March 2021, less than two years after he won the presidential election, Mr. Saied had expressed concerns over the country's post-revolutionary parliamentary system. According to him, the new Constitution would protect the values of the 2011 revolution – bread, freedom and dignity. While it leaves most of the personal freedoms guaranteed by the 2014 Constitution intact, the new charter seeks to take the country back to the presidential system, undercutting the powers of Parliament. The President will have ultimate authority to form a government, name Ministers (without Parliament's approval), appoint judges and present legislation directly to the legislature. It would also make it practically impossible for the lawmakers to remove the President from office.

Over the past year, President Saied has sacked many judges, tightening his control over the judiciary, and taken over the country's election body, the Supreme Independent Elections Commission (ISIE). Previously, the nine members of the ISIE were appointed by Parliament. Now, the President can directly appoint the members. He has left no doubt on how he is planning to rule the country.

The International Commission of Jurists, a Geneva-based advocacy, has said the new Constitution lacks essential checks on presidential powers and "would return Tunisia to an autocratic constitutional order."

Street March: Demonstrators hold flags during a protest in opposition to a referendum on the new Constitution called by President Kais Saied. • REUTERS

Has the revolution been undone?

If in Egypt the ruling Muslim Brotherhood's sudden move to Islamise the country created a momentum for the counter-revolution, which the military seized to grab power, in Tunisia, the Parliamentary system's failure to address the country's enormous problems set the stage for the presidential power grab.

The referendum is clearly a victory for Mr. Saied who could now claim legitimacy for his one-man rule. But the low turnout despite the regime's high decibel propaganda and the boycott of the vote by most political parties that have substantial influence among the public show that Mr. Saied is still on a slippery slope. In comparison with other countries hit by Arab Spring protests, Tunisia managed well in its transition. But the continued political turmoil suggests that the country is yet to recover from the post-revolutionary chaos. With a battered economy and a fractured polity, Mr. Saied could find it difficult to mobilise power even with a new Constitution.

EXPLAINER

Reviving BSNL in a competitive telecom market

Will the infusion of fresh capital in Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited be enough to lift its sagging fortunes?

SAPTAPARNO GHOSH

The story so far: To spur Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited's (BSNL) overall competitiveness in the steep domestic telecom market and de-stress its balance sheet, the Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved yet another revival package worth ₹1.64 lakh crore. The second reform package after 2019 is meant to be utilised over the next four years. The revival package would initiate measures on three fronts, namely, infusing fresh capital for upgrading the state-owned operator's services, strengthening its stressed balance sheet and augmenting its fibre network by merging Bharat Broadband Nigam Limited (BBNL) and BSNL. It is expected that the package could help with a turnaround in such a manner that BSNL starts earning profits in FY2026-27.

How does the latest package propose to help?

The package has three broad components. Starting with the endeavour to upscale its services, BSNL would be allocated spectrum in 900/1800 MHz band administratively at the cost of ₹44,993 crore via equity infusion.

The BTS count

Reliance Jio has got the highest number of transceiver stations among all other leading telecom companies

Type	BSNL	Bharti	V-IL	R-jio
2G BTS	84,672	2,18,747	2,13,086	0
3G BTS	62,375	6,704	1,13,019	0
4G BTS	8,599	6,46,828	3,47,336	9,04,579
Total BTS	1,55,646	8,72,279	6,73,441	9,04,579

Spectrum can be defined as invisible radio frequencies on which wireless signals travel, facilitating phone calls and internet usage. To put it simply, the allocation would help BSNL increase as well as consolidate its serviceable bandwidth. Thus, it would be able to provide high speed data utilising a vaster network presence, more importantly, in rural areas.

Other than spectrum, in order to pursue its social objectives, the Government would provision ₹13,789 crore to the company to fund its operational viability gap in the commercially unviable rural wireline operations that it had undertaken between 2014-15 and 2019-20.

Additionally, the Government would also be increasing the authorised capital from ₹40,000 crore to ₹1.50 lakh crore in lieu of its adjusted gross revenue (AGR) dues, provision of capital expenditure and allotment of spectrum. The AGR refers to the fee-sharing mechanism that computes the share in revenues that the telecom service providers (TSPs) are required to pay the government as annual licence fee and spectrum usage charges.

What was the 2019 package?

Among the more import features of the package was the proposed merger of Mahanagar Telecom Nigam Ltd (MTNL) and BSNL. It was argued that since the BSNL reaches out to populations in rural areas and MTNL is based in the metro cities of Mumbai and Delhi, combining their synergies would help acquire a pan-India footprint. It was informed in April this year that the merger had been delayed owing to financial reasons, including the high debt of MTNL.

For helping spur operations, the Government had announced a capital infusion of ₹20,140 crore for acquiring spectrum. The overall package which was for MTNL and BSNL combined, paved the way for the two PSUs to raise long term-bonds for which the Centre provided sovereign guarantee.

How is BSNL placed in comparison to its peers?

An essential metric to assess the health of telecom service providers is ARPU, that is, average revenue per user. BSNL's social sector duties prompt that all loss on capital assets is met from internal accruals only. Thus, it is unable to promptly respond to technological innovations in the market like its private peers, say a rapid transition from 4G to 5G. Thus, its ARPU suffers and impacts the bouquet of services. On the other hand, Bharti Airtel's ARPU in the March-end quarter increased about 23%, while Reliance Jio's ARPU increased 27% on a year-on-year basis.

A perusal of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India's (TRAI) monthly subscriber data between the end of April and May shows that BSNL lost wireless subscribers at an average 0.30% each month during the period, whereas Bharti Airtel and Reliance Jio combined had acquired wireless subscribers at an average 0.43% each month.

There is also a difference in the number of Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) held by the three companies. BTS is an equipment that sends and receives radio signals from mobile devices and routes them to other terminals in the network.

As per figures laid out in the Rajya Sabha in February, Reliance Jio and Bharti Airtel held six and five-and-half times more BTSs, respectively, when compared with BSNL.

What makes the industry so competitive? Is there an untapped opportunity?

As per the National Investment Promotion and Facilitation Agency, India's telecom industry is the second-largest in the world. The country's overall tele-density is 84.88%. However, there exists a divide between rural and urban areas. While the urban market's tele-density in 134.70%, the rural market is largely untapped at about 58.2%.

However, at the end of May, both Reliance Jio and Bharti Airtel had almost five times more subscribers in rural areas compared with BSNL.

THE GIST

- The Government would provision ₹13,789 crore to BSNL to fund its operational viability gap in the commercially unviable rural wire-line operations done during 2014-15 and 2019-20.
- A perusal of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India's (TRAI) monthly subscriber data between the end of April and May shows that BSNL lost wireless subscribers at an average 0.30% each month during the period.
- Reliance Jio and Airtel held six and five-and-half times more Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) respectively in comparison to BSNL.

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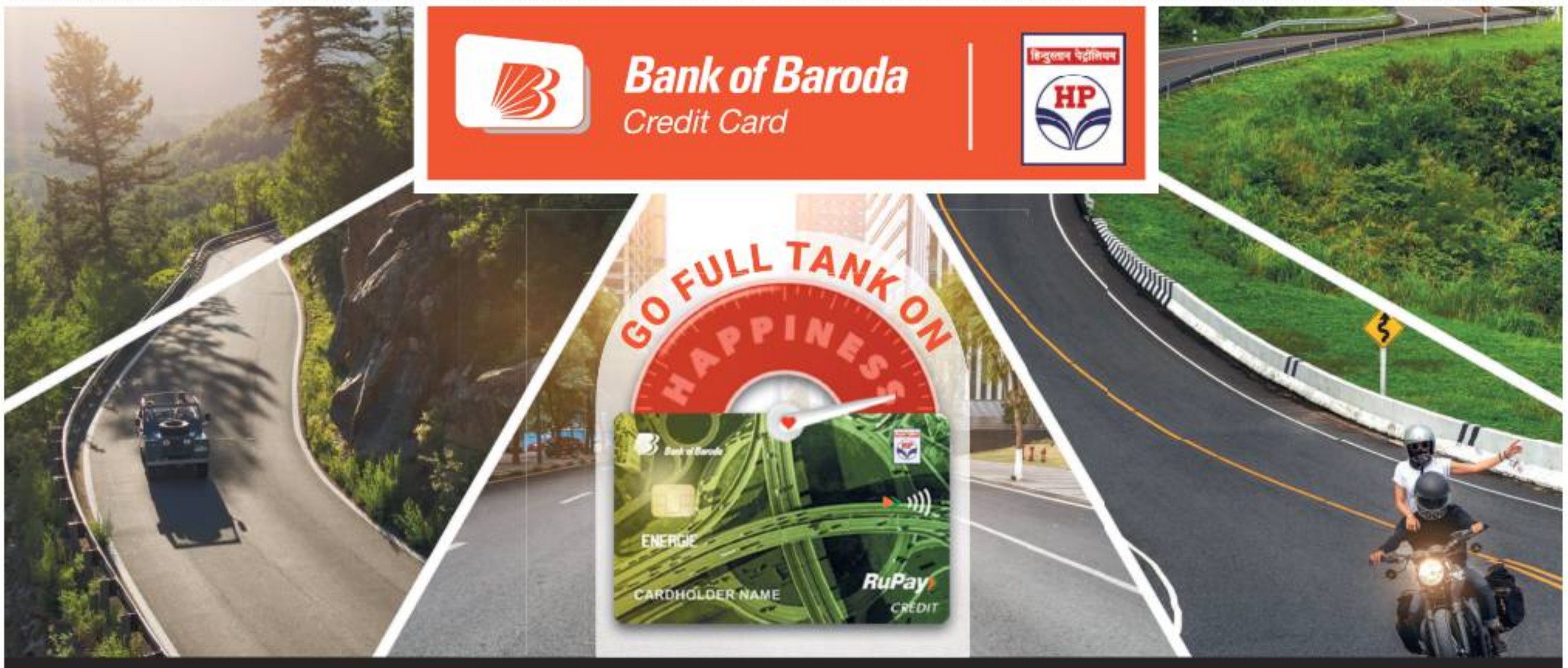

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Cerebration Quiz: Bengaluru round to be held on July 31

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

BusinessLine is back with the 19th edition of Cerebration Quiz 2022, one of India's biggest corporate quiz championships. The Cerebration Quiz is open to business professionals, corporate executives, MBA aspirants, and students from India's top-notch B-schools.

The winners will take home prize money worth up to ₹1.5 lakh (1st prize ₹75,000, 2nd prize ₹50,000, 3rd prize ₹25,000).

The preliminary online quiz was held from July 11 to 22 to shortlist the top six from each of the six cities of Chennai, Bengaluru, Kochi, Hyderabad, Mumbai and Delhi, and it witnessed more than 6,000 participants.

Now for the regional Bengaluru round, the following six participants will battle it out and one will qualify for the grand finale for the coveted title at an on-ground event in Mumbai.

Participants selected for Bengaluru regional Round to be held on July 31 at 4 p.m. are Sethu Madhavan - Capgemini; Anand Babu - EY; Krishnan Muralidhar - Alstom India; Aditya Morarka - Razorpay; Rabi Sankar Saha - Capgemini; Janishar Imam - SAIL.

Quiz enthusiasts can log in to witness the top 6 battle it out by registering at https://bit.ly/BLQBLR or by scanning the QR code.

The event is sponsored by: title sponsor: Union Bank of India; powered by: ManageEngine; writing instrument partner: Parker; associate partner: Greyon Cosmetics.

From today, SWR to run five pairs of MEMU trains to airport

Timings have been fixed in consultation with Bangalore International Airport Ltd.

SUCHITH KIDIYOOR
BENGALURU

From Friday, air passengers and people working at the Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) will have an economical option to travel between the city and the airport. The South Western Railway (SWR), on Thursday, announced that five pairs of MEMU trains will be introduced on the newly electrified line connecting the airport.

A train arriving at the halt station near Kempegowda International Airport. • FILE PHOTO

Operational difficulties that included the presence of a transmission line over the track had delayed the commissioning of MEMU services for a long time. Recently, the Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited (KPTCL) replaced the old transmission line, heightening the line as per the safety standards. Thereafter, the SWR carried out the trials of MEMU trains and decided to operate the new services.

Introduction of the new service is expected to benefit people travelling to the airport as they can travel paying ₹10 to ₹15 from city points. Divisional Railway Manager (Bengaluru) Shyam Singh told *The Hindu* that the new train schedules have been fixed after consulting the Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL), the operator of the Bengaluru airport. "After clearing all safety hurdles for running MEMU trains, we are introducing the new services from Friday. The services have been introduced in consultation with the BIAL."

In 2021, the SWR for the first time introduced five pairs of the DEMU services to the airport. However, the services received poor patronage. Eventually, the services were stopped owing to poor patronage and other operational constraints.

Rail activist K.N. Krishnaprasad said: "Reintroduction of the train services is a good development. The SWR should explore the possibility of running trains at other times also. In addition to this, there is a need to run trains from other locations in the city."

Commuters have also demanded that SWR run trains to KIA from Yeshwantpur, Hosur, and Whitefield.

The schedule

- The trains will be operated from KSR Bengaluru, Bengaluru Cantonment and Yelahanka to Devanahalli. Train number 06531 leaves KSR Bengaluru at 4.55 a.m. and reaches the halt station located on the boundary of the Bengaluru airport at 6.20 a.m. In the opposite direction, train number 06532 leaves KIA halt station at 7.58 p.m. and reaches KSR Bengaluru at 9.20 p.m.
- Train number 06533 will leave Devanahalli at 6.30 a.m. and reach Yelahanka at 7 a.m. The pairing train 06534 leaves Yelahanka at 7.45 a.m. and reaches KIA halt station at 8.03 a.m.
- Train number 06535 will leave Devanahalli at 8.50 a.m. and reach Bengaluru Cantonment at 10.10 a.m. Train 06536 leaves Cantonment at 12.20 p.m. and reaches KIA halt station at 1.20 p.m.
- Train number 06537 leaves KIA halt station at 2.07 p.m. and reaches Cantonment at 3.15 p.m. Train 06538 leaves Cantonment at 4 p.m. and reaches KIA halt station at 5.14 p.m.
- Train number 06539 leaves KIA halt station at 5.58 p.m and reaches Yelahanka at 6.20 a.m. From the opposite direction, train 06540 leaves Yelahanka at 7.15 p.m. and reaches KIA halt station at 7.37 p.m.
- SWR has also introduced a MEMU train from Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal in Baiyappanahalli to KSR Bengaluru. The train 06523 leaves the new terminal at 3.15 a.m. and reaches Majestic at 4 a.m. In the opposite direction, train number 06524 leaves Majestic at 9.30 p.m. and reaches the Baiyappanahalli terminal at 10.05 p.m.

Shivananda Circle flyover to be ready by August 15

Work under way on a war footing: BBMP

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

The steel flyover at Shivananda Circle will finally be completed and thrown open to the public by August 15, the civic body has said.

"We recently got approval for design changes to the flyover from the Karnataka High Court and work is under way on a war footing. We will complete the work by August 15," said Lokesh, chief engineer, projects, BBMP.

After building the skeleton of the flyover, the BBMP ran into land acquisition problems. It had to acquire 500 sq.m of land towards the Seshadripuram railway underpass and this ran into legal challenges. Days before the project was to be completed in November 2021, BBMP opted for a design change to make do with the available land.

The civic body had built a skeleton of the down ramp towards the Seshadripuram railway underpass with a gradient of 5.5. This was increased to 6.6, which is the maximum gradient allowed as per the Indian Road Congress guidelines. This essentially means the down ramp starts earlier and the flyover lands much before the earlier design, making acquiring the hotly contested 500 sq.m of land unnecessary. "This not steers the civic body away from legal challenges, but also saves ₹40 crore," Mr. Lokesh said.

But there are concerns over increasing the gradient of the flyover. Ashish Verma, convener, IISc Sustainable Transportation Lab, said it has to be ensured that no design flaw creeps into the flyover. "When the gradient increases, it may affect the visibility of vehicles if there is a sharp turn," he said.

Decision on Ejipura flyover soon

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

The BBMP will serve a notice over the weekend to Simplex Infrastructure Ltd., which is carrying out work on Ejipura flyover, before deciding on the next course of action. The HC had asked BBMP to take an independent decision after sorting out differences with the project proponent.

"The project proponent has submitted an affidavit in the court saying they will see through the project. We will serve them a notice and review their work. We will then take a call on whether to continue with the same proponent or float new tenders for the remaining work," said chief civic commissioner Tushar Giri Nath.

5G trial carried out at M.G. Road metro station

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

To test 5G readiness in Bengaluru, telecom operator Vodafone Idea (Vi) demonstrated 5G download speed of 1.2Gbps during a trial at M.G. Road Metro Station in Bengaluru on Thursday.

The trial was carried out as part of a pilot by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) aimed at making cross sectoral infrastructure more accessible for quick rollout of 5G network. According to Vodafone Idea, street infrastructure such as electricity poles, bus stands and traffic lights, are being used during the trial.

The trial involved checking 5G coverage at road level, in the concourse area, platforms and tracks. The learnings from this project will in turn be used for 5G deployment in other metro rail networks. TRAI has been testing 5G readiness using small cell and aerial fiber in locations across India. Vi will conduct similar trials in Bhopal, New Delhi international airport, and in Kandla port in Gujarat.

BWSSB phone-in programme

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) will hold a phone-in programme on Saturday.

According to a BWSSB release, chairman N. Jayaram will hear grievances of consumers relating to water billing, manhole overflowing, meter reading, improper water supply, and sanitary issues. Those who wish to take part can call 080-22945119 between 9 a.m. and 10.30 a.m. They are required to share R.R. number details before raising a complaint, the release stated.

BU modifies courses to implement NEP, introduces new papers

JAHNAVI T.R.
BENGALURU

Amidst growing demand for non-traditional subjects and programmes, Bangalore University's (BU) new integrated courses under the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 have garnered favour. While courses were modified according to NEP in the previous academic year, this year's addition is the five-year integrated B.Sc.-M.Sc. geography course with a specialisation in geoinformatics and natural disaster management.

While geography and geoinformatics papers were introduced before, natural disaster management is a new subject. However, all the subjects can now be studied in a single window in the integrated course. "Geoinformatics includes subjects like remote sensing, geo surveying, cartography, and other map-related subjects. Natural disaster management is also the need of the hour. Students can finish their honours degree and immediately join for a year of specialisation in either of the subjects under this new course," said Ashok Hanjagi, professor and chairman, Department of Geography and Geoinformatics, Bangalore University.

He added that there is "total job assurance" with these programmes. "Graduating students can work with MNCs, even abroad. We have tied up with the National Institute of Disaster Management and Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre. Our geoinformatics course is also supported by ISRO." He said around 30 students are expected to be admitted.

BU also started honour courses in Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Commerce, and Bachelor of Business Administration in the last academic year. "We were the first in the State to have NEP UG courses. We have hired guest faculty members. Most of them are doctorate holders," said S.R. Kesava, professor, Department of Economics.

He added that there are around 35 applications for BA this year and there are only 30 seats in each course. "As there are a lot of skill enhancement abilities and an opportunity to master one subject, there will be good job opportunities for these students," he added.

Another integrated programme of M.Sc. biological sciences has now been modified under NEP and BU is accepting applications for the course. A BU official said that depending on the response the NEP programmes receive, they could also be introduced in affiliated colleges in the next couple of years.

EAST COAST RAILWAY

E-AUCTION OF 55 SLRs & 6 VPs OVER KHURDA ROAD DIVISION

(A) Details of VPs :

Sl.	TRAIN No.	FROM-TO	LOT END DATE & TIME
1	12833/29	BHUBANESWAR-CHENNAI CENTRAL-BHUBANESWAR	12.08.22, 1030 hrs.
2	12898/97	BHUBANESWAR-PUDUCHERY-BHUBANESWAR	12.08.22, 1040 hrs.
3	12815/16	PURI-ANAND VIHAR TERMINAL-PURI	12.08.22, 1050 hrs.
4	12819/20	BHUBANESWAR-ANAND VIHAR TERMINAL-BHUBANESWAR	12.08.22, 1100 hrs.
5	12875/76	PURI-ANAND VIHAR TERMINAL-PURI	12.08.22, 1110 hrs.
6	18463/64	BHUBANESWAR-BENGALURU-BHUBANESWAR	12.08.22, 1120 hrs.

Lot Start Date & Time: 12.08.2022, 1000 hrs. (for Sl. No. 1 to 6). **Minimum Increase: 0.2%** (for Sl. No. 1 to 6). **Lot Status: New in Draft Catalogue** (for Sl. No. 1 to 6).

(B) Details of SLRs :

Sl.	TRAIN No.	FROM-TO	LOT END DATE & TIME
1	22866	PURI-LOKMANYA TILAK TERMINUS	10.08.2022, 1030 hrs.
2	22882	BHUBANESWAR-PUNE	10.08.2022, 1040 hrs.
3	22866	PURI-LOKMANYA TILAK TERMINUS	10.08.2022, 1050 hrs.
4	20861	PURI-AHMEDABAD	10.08.2022, 1100 hrs.
5	22974	PURI-GANDHIDHAM	10.08.2022, 1110 hrs.
6	22910	PURI-VALSAD	10.08.2022, 1120 hrs.
7	12898	BHUBANESWAR-PUDUCHERRY	10.08.2022, 1130 hrs.
8	17015	BHUBANESWAR-SECUNDERABAD	10.08.2022, 1140 hrs.
9	12281	BHUBANESWAR-NEW DELHI	10.08.2022, 1150 hrs.
10	18449	PURI-PATNA	10.08.2022, 1200 hrs.
11	22827	PURI-SURAT	10.08.2022, 1210 hrs.
12	12146	PURI-LOKMANYA TILAK TERMINUS	10.08.2022, 1220 hrs.
13	12845	BHUBANESWARA-BANGALORE CANT	10.08.2022, 1230 hrs.
14	20817	BHUBANESWAR-NEW DELHI	10.08.2022, 1240 hrs.
15	17479	PURI-TIRUPATI	10.08.2022, 1250 hrs.
16	17479	PURI-TIRUPATI	10.08.2022, 1300 hrs.
17	20472	PURI-BIKANER	10.08.2022, 1310 hrs.
18	22833	BHUBANESWAR-KRISHNARAJAPURAM	10.08.2022, 1320 hrs.
19	12994	PURI-GANDHIDHAM	10.08.2022, 1330 hrs.
20	22871	BHUBANESWAR-TIRUPATI	10.08.2022, 1340 hrs.
21	20819	PURI-OKHA	10.08.2022, 1350 hrs.
22	22836	PURI-SHALIMAR	10.08.2022, 1400 hrs.
23	18419	PURI-JAYNAGAR	10.08.2022, 1410 hrs.
24	22879	BHUBANESWAR-TIRUPATI	10.08.2022, 1420 hrs.
25	12888	PURI-SHALIMAR	10.08.2022, 1430 hrs.
26	20918	PURI-INDORE	10.08.2022, 1440 hrs.
27	20896	BHUBANESWAR-RAMESWARAM	10.08.2022, 1450 hrs.
28	18447	BHUBANESWAR-JAGDALPUR	11.08.2022, 1030 hrs.
29	12822	PURI-SHALIMAR	11.08.2022, 1040 hrs.
30	22840	BHUBANESWAR-ROURKELA	11.08.2022, 1050 hrs.
31	18417	PURI-GUNUPUR	11.08.2022, 1100 hrs.
32	12880	BHUBANESWAR-LOKMANYA TILAK TERMINUS	11.08.2022, 1110 hrs.
33	22811	BHUBANESWAR-NEW DELHI	11.08.2022, 1120 hrs.
34	22202	PURI-SEALDAH	11.08.2022, 1130 hrs.
35	22805	BHUBANESWAR-ANAND VIHAR TERMINAL	11.08.2022, 1140 hrs.
36	22823	BHUBANESWAR-NEW DELHI	11.08.2022, 1150 hrs.
37	20837	BHUBANESWAR-JUNAGARH ROAD	11.08.2022, 1200 hrs.
38	17015	BHUBANESWAR-SECUNDERABAD	11.08.2022, 1210 hrs.
39	12819	BHUBANESWAR-ANAND VIHAR TERMINAL	11.08.2022, 1220 hrs.
40	12815	PURI-ANAND VIHAR TERMINAL	11.08.2022, 1230 hrs.
41	18452	PURI-HATIA	11.08.2022, 1240 hrs.
42	18417	PURI-GUNUPUR	11.08.2022, 1250 hrs.
43	22819	BHUBANESWAR-VISAKHAPATNAM	11.08.2022, 1300 hrs.
44	18126	PURI-ROURKELA	11.08.2022, 1310 hrs.
45	12074	BHUBANESWAR-HOWRAH	11.08.2022, 1320 hrs.
46	18410	PURI-SHALIMAR	11.08.2022, 1330 hrs.
47	22819	BHUBANESWAR-VISAKHAPATNAM	11.08.2022, 1340 hrs.
48	22819	BHUBANESWAR-VISAKHAPATNAM	11.08.2022, 1350 hrs.
49	18410	PURI-SHALIMAR	11.08.2022, 1400 hrs.
50	18463	BHUBANESWAR-BENGALURU	11.08.2022, 1410 hrs.
51	18126	PURI-ROURKELA	11.08.2022, 1420 hrs.
52	12875	PURI-ANAND VIHAR TERMINAL	11.08.2022, 1430 hrs.
53	18425	PURI-DURG	11.08.2022, 1440 hrs.
54	20837	BHUBANESWAR-JUNAGARH ROAD	11.08.2022, 1450 hrs.
55	12843	PURI-AHMEDABAD	11.08.2022, 1500 hrs.

Lot Start Date & Time: 10.08.2022, 1000 hrs. (for Sl. No. 1 to 27) & **11.08.2022, 1000 hrs.** (for Sl. No. 28 to 55) . **Minimum Increase: 0.2%** (for Sl. No. 1 to 55). **Lot Status: New in Draft Catalogue** (for Sl. No. 1 to 55).

The tender documents complete details available at: **http://www.ireps.gov.in**

PR-335/N/22-23 | **Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager/ Khurda Road**

Directorate of Mines, Department of Mines & Geology
Government of Jharkhand
Nepal House (Yojna Bhavan), Doranda, Ranchi - 834002
Email: director-mines@jharkhandmail.gov.in

Notice Inviting Tender
"Invitation of Bid for grant of Mining Lease"

In exercise of the power conferred by Section 15 of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and in accordance with the Jharkhand Miner Mineral Concession Rules , 2004 (Subsequent Amendments) and the Jharkhand Minor Mineral (Auction) Rules, 2017 (Subsequent Amendments) notified thereunder, Government of Jharkhand has identified a Stone block for the purpose of grant of Mining Lease in [East Singhbhum] District, Jharkhand, through electronic auction and hereby invites bids in digital format only, from eligible bidders.

Terms and conditions, deadlines etc. for participating in the electronic auction are provided in the Tender Document. The Model Tender Document for the Mineral Block and Mineral Block Summary are available free of cost in electronic form and can be downloaded from website of MSTC [https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/mmb/jharkhand/index.jsp] for the purpose of information only. Timelines, notification, updates and other details of the e-auction process are available on the website of MSTC and the website of Department of Mines & Geology, Govt. of Jharkhand http://www.jharkhand.gov.in/mines-geology.

The details of the mineral block are summarized below

Block	Concession Area Ha.	Resource (Cubic meter)	Last Date of sale of Tender Document on MSTC website	Last Date of submission of technical bid & IPO on MSTC website	Date of Opening of Tender
CHHOTA HARIYAN STONE BLOCK-A	2.35 Acre (0.95 Hectare)	96105.77	18.08.2022	22.08.2022	23.08.2022

Those interested and eligible for bidding can participate in the bidding only after online purchase of the Tender Document on payment of the tender fee of INR 25000.00 **(Indian Rupees Twenty Five Thousand only)** plus GST as applicable (non-refundable), from the website of e-auction platform provider. The applicable GST should be paid by Reverse Charge Mechanism by the Bidder and the GST Paid Slip should be attached with the Bid Letter. After purchase of the Tender Document, eligible bidders can register themselves on the above-mentioned website. On successful registration, eligible bidder will obtain Login ID and password necessary for participation in the e-auction process.

Sd/- Director Mines
Department of Mines & Geology
Govt. of Jharkhand

PR 274713 Mines and Geology (22-23)_D

Directorate of Mines
Department of Mines & Geology, Government of Jharkhand
Nepal House (Yojna Bhavan), Doranda, Ranchi - 834002,
Email: director-mines@jharkhandmail.gov.in

Notice Inviting Tender
"Invitation of Bid for grant of Mining Lease"

In exercise of the power conferred by Section 15 of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and in accordance with the Jharkhand Miner Mineral Concession Rules , 2004 (Subsequent Amendments) and the Jharkhand Minor Mineral (Auction) Rules, 2017 (Subsequent Amendments) notified thereunder, Government of Jharkhand has identified a Stone block for the purpose of grant of Mining Lease in [Dhanbad] District, Jharkhand, through electronic auction and hereby invites bids in digital format only, from eligible bidders.

Terms and conditions, deadlines etc. for participating in the electronic auction are provided in the Tender Document. The Model Tender Document for the Mineral Block and Mineral Block Summary are available free of cost in electronic form and can be downloaded from website of MSTC [https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/mmb/jharkhand/index.jsp] for the purpose of information only. Timelines, notification, updates and other details of the e-auction process are available on the website of MSTC and the website of Department of Mines & Geology, Govt. of Jharkhand http://www.jharkhand.gov.in/mines-geology.

The details of the mineral block are summarized below

Block	Concession Area Ha.	Resource (Cubic meter)	Last Date of sale of Tender Document on MSTC website	Last Date of submission of technical bid & IPO on MSTC website	Date of Opening of Tender
KESHKA STONE BLOCK	2.80 Acre (1.13 Hectare)	197146	18.08.2022	22.08.2022	23.08.2022

Those interested and eligible for bidding can participate in the bidding only after online purchase of the Tender Document on payment of the tender fee of INR 25000.00 **(Indian Rupees Twenty Five Thousand only)** plus GST as applicable (non-refundable), from the website of e-auction platform provider. The applicable GST should be paid by Reverse Charge Mechanism by the Bidder and the GST Paid Slip should be attached with the Bid Letter. After purchase of the Tender Document, eligible bidders can register themselves on the above-mentioned website. On successful registration, eligible bidder will obtain Login ID and password necessary for participation in the e-auction process.

Sd/-
Director Mines
Department of Mines & Geology Govt. of Jharkhand

PR 274719 Mines and Geology(22-23)#D

Government of India (Min. Of Railways)
Research Designs and Standards Organisation
Manak Nagar, Lucknow - 226 011

Open E -Tender Notice No. TST_TC_CAL_2022_02

Open E- Tender No. TST_TC_CAL_2022_02 is invited by Ex. Director/Testing/Lab, Testing Directorate, RDSO, Manak Nagar, Lucknow on behalf of President of India for following Works:

Description of Work	Approx. Cost (Rs.)	EMD Money (Rs.)
"Calibration of Sensors from Outside agency" on Open Tender basis **available in Testing Directorate, R.D.S.O., Manak Nagar, Lucknow On Open tender basis for five years."**	**Rs. 17,04,215/-**	**Rs. 34,100/-**
	Cost of Tender Form: NIL	

- Manual offers are not allowed against this tender.
- The tenderer must have Class-III Digital Signature certificate & must have registered on IREPS portal. Only registered tenderer can participate in e-tendering.
- Tender Closing Date & Time:**25.08.2022** up to **15:00 Hrs.**
- Tender Opening Date and Time: **25.08.2022** at **15:30** hrs.
- The tender can be viewed at website **http://www.ireps.gov.in.**
- Amendments/Corrigendum, if any, would be hosted on the website only.

Ex.Director/Testing/RDSO/Lucknow

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
Construction & Maintenance Group,
ISRO HQ, Antariksh Bhavan, New BEL Road,
Bengaluru-560094 Phone: 080-2217 2033/2032/2476
Fax: No.: 080-23513126

e-TENDER NOTICE

On behalf of the President of India, item rate e-tenders are invited for the following work:

Name of work	**Annual Maintenance service contract for Housekeeping works within the campus, outside Main Building at Antariksh Bhavan, Bengaluru.**
Tender Notice No.	**CMG/ISRO-HQ/C/AMC/12/P/ 2022-23 Dtd: 27.07.2022**
Estimated Cost put to tender	**Rs. 9,40,600/-**
Period of Completion in months	**Twelve (12) Months**
Period during which the tender document can be requested	**From: 18.00 Hrs on 27.07.2022 To 23:30 Hrs on 04.08.2022**
Period during which the tender document can be downloaded	**From: 18.10 Hrs on 27.07.2022 To: 23:59 Hrs on 04.08.2022**
Bid clarifications	**From: 19.00 Hrs on 27.07.2022 To: 10.30 Hrs on 05.08.2022**
Reply to Bid clarifications	**Up to: 18.00 Hrs on 05.08.2022**
Last date and time for receipt of tenders	**Up to 14:30 Hrs on 08.08.2022**
Due date and time for opening of tenders	**15:30 Hrs on 08.08.2022**
EMD	**Rs.18,812/-**

Interested tenderers may please refer detailed tender notice on **www.isro.gov.in** Detailed tender notice and tender documents can be downloaded from **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO**

Sd/- Group Head CMG, ISRO HQ

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby informed that my clients **(1) Sri. H.K. Nagendra** S/o Sri. H.R. Keshavarorayana Setty & **(2) Smt. Sudha Nagendra**, W/o Sri. H.K. Nagendra have entered into an agreement of sale dated 20-05-2022 agreeing to purchase property which is more fully described in the schedule herein below from Sri. Nanjundegowda, S/o late K.T. Bojegowda, R/at No.65, R K Garden, RMV 2nd Stage, New BEL Road, Bangalore-560079, and the said agreement is registered as document No.RJN-1-01702-2022-23 and saved in CD No. RJND1160, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Rajajinagar, Bangalore. Any person having any right/ claim over the schedule property or any portion thereof in any manner may lodge his/her/their claim/ objection in writing to the undersigned within **7 days** hereof along with copies of all the documents being relied upon, as otherwise my clients will proceed to purchase the schedule property as if there are no claims/objections from any person/s.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of property House property bearing site No.3416, BBMP PID No. 8-44-9 situated in the layout formed by BDA at Rajajinagar 2nd Stage, now at 1st Main, Gayathrinagar, 'C' Block, Bangalore, within BBMP Ward No.76 measuring: East to West: (43+42)/2 North to South: 30 feet in all measuring 1275 Sq.ft along with residential house existing thereon having built up area of 1000 Sq.ft in the ground floor and 900 Sq.ft in the first floor and bounded on the **East by:** Road, **West by:** Road, **North by:** Site No.3417, **South by:** Site No.3416/A.

K. SOMASEKHAR REDDY, Advocate
Address: No.1, 1st Floor, M.C.Plaza, 1st Main Road, 1st Cross, Ganganagar, Bangalore-560 032. Ph: 9448381245

IN THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-1 AT BANGALORE
O.A. No. 254 of 2021

M/s. CANARA BANK
RAJAJINAGAR 2nd BLOCK BR., B'LORE-10, Rep. by its Chief Manager **V/s. ....APPLICANT**

M/s. MURUGAN METAL & WOOD ENGRAVING WORKS by its Proprietor **....DEFENDANT**

SUMMONS TO THE DEFENDANT ISSUED UNDER REGULATIONS-16 OF THE DRT-I-2015

M/s. MURUGAN METAL & WOOD ENGRAVING WORKS **Rep. by its Prop. Sri MURUGAN R.,** Aged about 44 Years, S/o. Sri Krishnachari, @ # 69, 4th Cross, Okalipuram, Bangalore-560 021.

WHEREAS the above named Applicant has instituted the application U/S 19 of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks & Financial Institutions Act, 1993, against the defendant for recovery of a sum of **Rs. 34,69,110/=** alongwith court costs, and current & future interest and other reliefs from the date of application till date of recovery. You are hereby required **to show cause within 30 days of the service of the summons or on 22nd day of September 2022 at 10:30 a.m.** either in person or duly instructed pleader as to why the relief prayed for should not be granted.

Take Notice that, in case of default the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this the 13th day of July 2022 at Bangalore.

Sd/- (REGISTRAR)
Debts Recovery Tribunal-1 for Karnataka
4, LIC Jeevan Mangal Building, 1st Floor Residency (Heyas) Road, Bangalore-560 025.

A still from *The Bear* •

IN THE LIMELIGHT

A delectable recipe for success

As any discussion on food continues to comfort, fascinate and invigorate audiences, culinary shows have always continued to be relatable and engaging

GAUTAM SUNDER

THE GIST

- For decades, the genre — be it a documentary, a reality competition, or a fictional drama — has captured the attention of millions of viewers.
- There are several culinary shows which have titles that speak to our cultural, historical and sociological interest in food, such as several of the late great Anthony Bourdain's food/ travel projects.
- There are other titles that tick the boxes when it comes to providing relatable yet escapist fare in the genre such as *Chef's Table*, *Salt Fat Acid Heat*, *Street Food* and *The Chef Show*.

What constitutes a great culinary show? For decades, the genre – be it a documentary, a reality competition, or a fictional drama – has captured the attention of millions of viewers. Be it the sight of an unheralded underdog winning the title after months of being invested in their personal and professional lives, or getting engrossed into a chef's deep-dive into the history and culture of a dish in a docu-series, food as a topic has continued to comfort, fascinate and invigorate audiences, especially during and post the pandemic.

Take the case of *MasterChef*, which has grown from being a little-known quest to find the most talented amateur chefs in the U.K. and Australia, to a global phenomenon spawning spin-offs across continents. The show not only made household names out of the likes of judges George Calombaris, Matt Preston and Gary Mehigan – catapulting them to overnight fame as television stars – but also endeared the contestants and their cooking techniques to viewers irrespective of their location. Suddenly, kitchens back home were abuzz with terms like "sous vide" and "deconstruct" and ingredients imported from Australia surged in popularity at grocery chains globally.

Food: a common factor

A more diverse line-up of judges (and participants) has taken over the mantle recently, but we continue to relate to their backgrounds, challenges and inspirations, with the love for food being the common bonding factor.

Then, there are titles that speak to our cultural, historical and sociological interest in food, such as several of the late great Anthony Bourdain's food/ travel projects, or more recently, restaurant chain Momofuku founder David Chang's riveting *Ugly Delicious*. With each episode showcasing one dish or a concept, Chang globe trots his way around regions, exploring their association with food, and how it influences people.

"The Bear" rides on the strength of its quicksilver editing that captures all the madness and meltdowns of a commercial kitchen; julienned carrots, braised beef and angry tears

With several celebrity cameos to boot, Chang whets appetites showcasing both popular and never-seen-before culinary dishes, and also succeeds in taking an egalitarian approach to cuisine, as highlighted in this Vulture review.

An escapist fare

There are other titles that tick the boxes when it comes to providing relatable yet escapist fare in the genre. *Chef's Table*, *Salt Fat Acid Heat*, *Street Food* and *The Chef Show* are some popular binge-watches, while *Midnight Diner*, an anthology on Netflix, that is centred around a late-night diner called Meshiya in the Shinjuku district of Tokyo, its mysterious owner and his patrons. Developing a cult following over time, the manga-based series is yet another unique addition to the growing array of hit productions themed around food.

Surprisingly though, the genre finds very few fictional films or shows; Bradley Cooper's *Burnt*, Jon Favreau's 2014 smash-hit *Chef*, Pixar's gorgeous ode to Parisian cuisine in *Ratatouille*, and Anwar Rasheed's heart-warming Malayalam drama *Ustad Hotel* are some of the stand-outs, while K-Dramas like *Hometown Cha-Cha-Cha* dabble in it from time to time.

However, in what is making a case to be arguably the best television show of 2022, comes *The Bear* – a hypnotic, anxiety attack of a drama if there ever was one – which portrays the inside of a modern-day restaurant kitchen with a stunning cast of breakout stars.

A palpable viewing experience

Helmed by Ramy creator Christopher Storer, episodes are one stress bomb after another, as we follow the main protagonist Carmy (Jeremy Allen White of Shameless fame), a James Beard Award-winning chef from Noma, who has now come home to Chicago to run his family's Italian beef sandwich shop... after his brother's suicide.

An immersive and palpable viewing experience like no other, *The Bear* rides on the strength of its quicksilver editing that captures all the madness and meltdowns of a commercial kitchen; julienned carrots, braised beef, angry tears, shouting matches, et al. An incredible ensemble of actors hugely complements the set-pieces – most of which are staged in a cramped setting – from which we are unable to tear our eyes off. "Thank you, chef" becomes the kitchen's motto; a fitting catchphrase indeed as the narrative slaloms towards a heady finale.

Ultimately, culinary shows will always continue to be relatable and engaging, be it connecting emotionally with a small-town homemaker's food journey in a different country, or falling in love with cooking after watching someone whip up a delectable dish on-screen. A true-blue recipe for success!

THE DAILY QUIZ

On July 27, 1940, Bugs Bunny, the rabbit who became the most popular of Warner Brothers' cartoon characters, made his first film appearance in "A Wild Hare". Here is a quiz on some of the famous cartoon characters.

1 This is an animated cartoon character featured in the Warner Bros. Looney Tunes and Merrie Melodies series of cartoons. It is portrayed as a ferocious carnivore with a notoriously short temper and little patience. Name the cartoon.

2 Plane Crazy, The Gallopin' Gaucho, Steamboat Willie, and The Barn Dance heralded the arrival of this cartoon, considered one of the most famous cartoon characters in the history of animation. Name the character.

3 This film is an American animated film produced by Walt Disney Productions which was initially a box office bomb. Later, it gained popularity and Jiminy Cricket, one of the film's most notable characters is quoted even today in many pop culture references. Name the film.

4 This is a 1994 American animated musical drama film produced by Walt Disney Feature Animation. Hakuna Matata, one of the most popular phrases, is associated with this film. Name the film.

5 This American animated sitcom has gained notoriety for jokes that appeared to become reality. "D'oh!" is a famous catchphrase from the show that is now listed in the Oxford English Dictionary. Name the show. Also, there is a recurring character in the show and his portrayal has been accused by some of being a racist caricature of Indians and South Asians. Name the character.

6 This is a daily American comic strip, commonly cited as "the last great newspaper comic". The first strip was published in 1985 in 35 newspapers. Name the comic strip and the cartoonist who created the comic.

7 This was an American animation studio that produced animated cartoons for theatrical release. The studio created many cartoon characters like Fanny Zilch, Mighty Mouse, Heckle and Jeckle. Name the studio.

◄ Identify this cartoon. Who created it?

Compiled by: Sindhu Nagaraj

Please send in your answers to the **dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in**

Questions (abridged) and Answers to the previous day's quiz: 1. What is the single biggest contribution of Melville Marks Robinson to the Games' history? **Ans: He came up with the idea of hosting the event after attending the Amsterdam Olympics in 1928**
2. In which two years were the Games not hosted and why? **Ans: 1942 and 1946; because of World War II**
3. Name the event for which Rashid Anwar got a bronze in 1934 Games. **Ans: Men's 74kg freestyle wrestling**
4. What distinction do Australia, Canada, England, New Zealand, Scotland, and Wales have? **Ans: They have participated in every Commonwealth Games**
5. In which year did the event take place in New Delhi? **Ans: 2010**
6. In which sport has India won the most medals at the CWG, with 135 podium finishes? **Ans: Shooting**
7. Name the nation which tops the medal tally with 2416 medals. **Ans: Australia.**
8. Name the sport on the Commonwealth Games programme that is not an Olympic event. **Ans: Lawn bowls**
9. How many nations and territories are expected to take part in Birmingham? **Ans: 72 (54 Commonwealth countries and 18 territories)**
Visual: Name the Indian sportsperson who has won 15 medals. **Ans: Jaspal Rana**
Early Birds: Pooja Khyalia | Viswanathan Neelakantan | Shiv Narayan | Teena Achint

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know Your English

"Good morning, sir."

"Good morning."

"What is a 'damp squib', sir?"

"A squib is a firecracker. A damp squib is a wet squib. It looks like a dry squib but it won't catch fire and explode. When something you expect to succeed fails, you say it was a damp squib.

The minister's speech was a damp squib. His visit was a damp squib."

"What is the difference between 'He speaks like a poet' and 'He speaks as a poet', sir?"

"*He speaks like a poet* means that he speaks in the manner of a poet. He is not a poet but his speech sounds highly poetic. There is a resemblance between the way he uses language and the way a poet uses it.

'He speaks as a poet' means that he speaks in his capacity as a poet.

'I speak as a novelist' means that I speak in my capacity as a novelist.

'He speaks as a politician' means that he speaks in his capacity as a politician. I hope the difference is clear to you now."

"Absolutely sir."

"What is the meaning of 'He is a has-been politician', sir?"

"When a person is no longer as powerful or influential as he used to be, you say 'he is a has-been'. The plural is not 'have-beens' but 'has-beens'. No 'has-been' accepts that he is one.

It is pointless to go to him for recommendation. He is a has-been.

The has-beens in politics strive hard to come back to power."

"What's the difference between 'discrete' and 'discreet', sir?"

"They are pronounced in the same way. 'Crete' and 'creet' rhyme with 'street' and 'treat'. There is a difference in meaning. 'Discrete' means 'separate and independent'.

These are discrete things.

These were once discrete blocks. Now they have all been connected.

We are discussing discrete particles at the moment.

'Discreet' means 'careful', 'showing good sense and judgment'.

Make discreet enquires and let me know.

You can entrust him with the job. He is discreet in his dealings with people.

It wasn't discreet of him to talk about this delicate matter in the presence of so many people.

He remains calm even under great provocation. When you ask him inconvenient questions, you are met with a discreet silence.

Let's stop here. Goodbye."

"Thank you, sir. Goodbye."

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

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Police recover illegally stocked rice and ragi

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Food Inspector attached to the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) south division raided the house of a 70-year-old man and recovered 25 quintals of rice and ragi stored at his house illegally on Monday.

A team led by Shamanth Jayarangappa raided the house at Pragatipura in Banashankari II Stage and caught Mahboob Khan.

The officials recovered 45 plastic bags of rice and eight bags of ragi, which were part of the Anna Bhagya scheme. The officials suspect that Mahboob used to buy them from the poor and sell it to rice mills for a higher price. The mills in turn process the rice and ragi further to sell it in the open market, the police said. The accused has been booked under the Essential Commodities Act, but has not been arrested due to his age, the police said.

Remove encroachments on Vrishabhavathi: HC

Officers told to submit compliance report on action taken

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Vrishabhavathi river at Nayandahalli Outer Ring Road Junction. • FILE PHOTO

The High Court of Karnataka on Thursday directed the authorised jurisdictional officers of the Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike to take action for removal of a large number of encroachments on Vrishabhavathi river basin, valley basin, its tributaries, connected lakes, and the buffer zones that were identified in the survey conducted by the State government.

The court said that the officers and assistant executive engineers should submit compliance report on action taken to removal of encroachments by October 19.

A Division Bench comprising acting Chief Justice Alok Aradhe and Justice S. Vishwajith Shetty passed the order while hearing a PIL petition, filed in 2020 by Githa Misra, a resident of the city, complaining about the disappearance of the Vrishabhavathi river valley, and pollution of river water and connecting drains.

NEERI report

The court in June 2021 had directed the government to conduct the survey to identify encroachments after the CSIR-National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) has recommended a complete survey of Vrishabhavathi river valley. The NEERI, in its interim report, had recommended survey to identify details of encroachments, buffer area to be maintained, stormwater drain, agricultural runoff, actual boundaries of all the lakes, etc.

NPKL panel takes BDA to task over slow work

Unhappy with BDA's decision to omit name of the layout in an advertisement

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

BJP leader S. Suresh Kumar has decided to lead a delegation to meet the chairperson of Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) after a petition committee meeting of the Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout (NPKL) on Thursday to discuss the woes of the site owners. The committee was not happy with the BDA's decision to omit the name of the layout in the advertisement they had published on account of completion of one year by the Basavaraj Bommai-led government.

"They had no answer when we asked them why NPKL was not on the list. We told them to learn to respect Nadaprabhu Kempegowda. BDA should instil faith in the allottees and give a timeline about when the work will be completed. When they have given the names of all of their projects, why omit this?" Mr. Kumar told *The Hindu*.

The committee also questioned the BDA for seeking affidavits from site owners after promising that basic amenities will be provided to those who come forward to build houses in the layout. For this, the BDA officials said that they will not ask for affidavits and will give the committee a timeline about the tentative dates by which drinking water, UGD, roads, and electricity will be provided to house builders.

"The BDA had also said that if sites are kept empty, fines will be levied on the grounds of not building houses five years after acquiring the sites. But when infrastructure is not provided, how can they impose fines," Mr. Kumar said. He said BDA has now promised not to levy fines until basic resources are provided.

HC quashes 32-year-old BDA notification

It had ordered acquiring 2 acres of land as part of scheme to form BTM Layout

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has quashed the notifications issued by the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) 32 years ago to acquire around two acres of land in Hulimavu village as part of the scheme to form Byrasandra, Tavarekere, and Madivala (BTM) Layout. The court also quashed the 2008 resolution passed by the BDA for allotting the two acres to the Police Department for constructing building for Hulivamu Police Station and the police quarters.

It was declared by the court that notification for acquiring two acres and four guntas of land situated at survey number 80/1 Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore South Taluk lapsed as the land was neither taken over by the government nor handed over to the BDA as per the provisions of the BDA Act.

Justice Suraj Govindaraj passed the order while allowing the petition filed by the legal heirs of the original owner of the land. The legal heirs had multiple rounds of litigation over acquisition since 1990. The court found that the BDA had not taken over the land while declining to accept the contention that original owner, Chikkapapaiah of the land had refused to accept the notice in 1993 on the award passed on acquiring the land. It was noted by the court that legal heirs of the original land owner are in possession of the land. And the Police Department had given an undertaking to the court of not to put up any construction but use the land only for parking seized vehicles.

The preliminary notification to acquire several several of lands were issued in 1987 and the final notification was issued in 1990.

Flower vendor found dead

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

A 30-year-old flower vendor was bludgeoned to death at city market complex after a drunken brawl in the early hours of Thursday. The deceased, Prashanth, resident of Kadirenahalli, had gone to the market to get flowers to sell in the market the next morning.

The police suspect that while waiting for the consignment, he, along with his friends, had a party. An argument over a trivial matter took an ugly turn when the accused assaulted him with liquor bottles and wooden crates.

Maruti Suzuki Grand Vitara unveiled

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

Maruti Suzuki's new breed of SUV Grand Vitara was unveiled here on Thursday.

According to a release, the vehicle will be available with 1.5-litre intelligent electric hybrid and 1.5-litre next-gen K-series dual jet, dual VVT engine with progressive smart hybrid technology. The hybrid engine produces 91bhp - 114 and 122Nm of torque in the petrol mode and combined with an electric motor it generates 114bhp. This engine gets an e-CVT unit and returns a fuel efficiency figure of 27.97kmpl.

Prajwal Devaraj, actor; Mohit Jindal (commercial business Head, Maruti Suzuki India); Mohan Raju,MD, Kalyani Motors; Venkateswara Rao, CEO, Kalyani Motors; and Rajesh Nagarajan, Nexa regional manager, Maruti Suzuki India, were present.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the general public that our clients **Mrs. VISHALAKSHAMMA W/o Mr. D R Francis Vasanthakumar** is intending to purchase the schedule property mentioned hereunder from **Sri. J.G. PADMANABHA S/o. Sri. Gopalakrishna**, any person's objecting for the proposed purchase or are having any right, title, interest or any type of claim over the scheduled property is hereby called upon to file their objections/claims what so ever along with documentary proof within **7 days** from the date of publication of this notice with the under mentioned advocate failing which; our client/s shall proceed and complete the sale transaction with the above stated person.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the residential **BDA Site No.857,** Katha No. 1529/857, situated at **1st stage, 4th block, H.B.R. Layout, Bangalore,** Measuring East to West 12.19 Mtrs and North to South 18.29 Mtrs, in all total measuring **222.95. Sq. Mtrs.,** along with the residential building standing thereon presently under BBMP limits Ward No.24, and bounded on the: - **East by : Site No. 858, West by : Site No.856, North by : Road, South by : Site No.833.**

C.K.V.K. LAW ASSOCIATES
Mr. VENKATESH CHANDRAN M.A., L.L.B.
Advocates & Legal Consultants
Bangalore-560 043. Contact : 9845846428

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify for the general information of the public that, my client **Sri.Ramesh Vasudevan S/o Sri.Vasudevan Narayanasamy** Aged about 52 Years Previously Residing at No.4271, Norwalk Drv X207, San Jose, California 95129 USA, Presently Residing at No.F-1, SSD Pearls, 2nd Cross, Udayanagar, Chikkalasandra, Bangalore 560 061. He has executed General Power of Attorney in favour of his father Sri.Vasudevan Narayanasamy S/o Narayanasamy on 25-01-2005, and he has executed General Power of Attorney, on 23-05-2007 in favour of his brother Sri.V.Bhaskaran S/o N.Vasudevan Naidu, it was adjudicated on 20-06-2007, to act on his behalf and performs all acts, deeds and things therein recited:

My client revoked the General power of Attorney's on 19-07-2022, hence since onwards any Persons or Institutions made any transactions with my attorney based on my GPA is void ab initio and not enforcable in the eye of law. I am not responsible for said illegal transaction.

If any Persons or Institutions having does any transaction with my lawful attorney prior to my revocation of authority Right, Title, Interest, Charge, lien, and claims whatsoever may lodge his/her and their/its claim to the undersigned with documentary proof within a period of **07 days** from the date of this publication failing which it will be presumed that there are no objections/Claims on my client.

SHESHAPPAGOUDA PATIL, Advocate
R.R. Nagar, Bangalore-560098.
Mobile No. : 9480117041.

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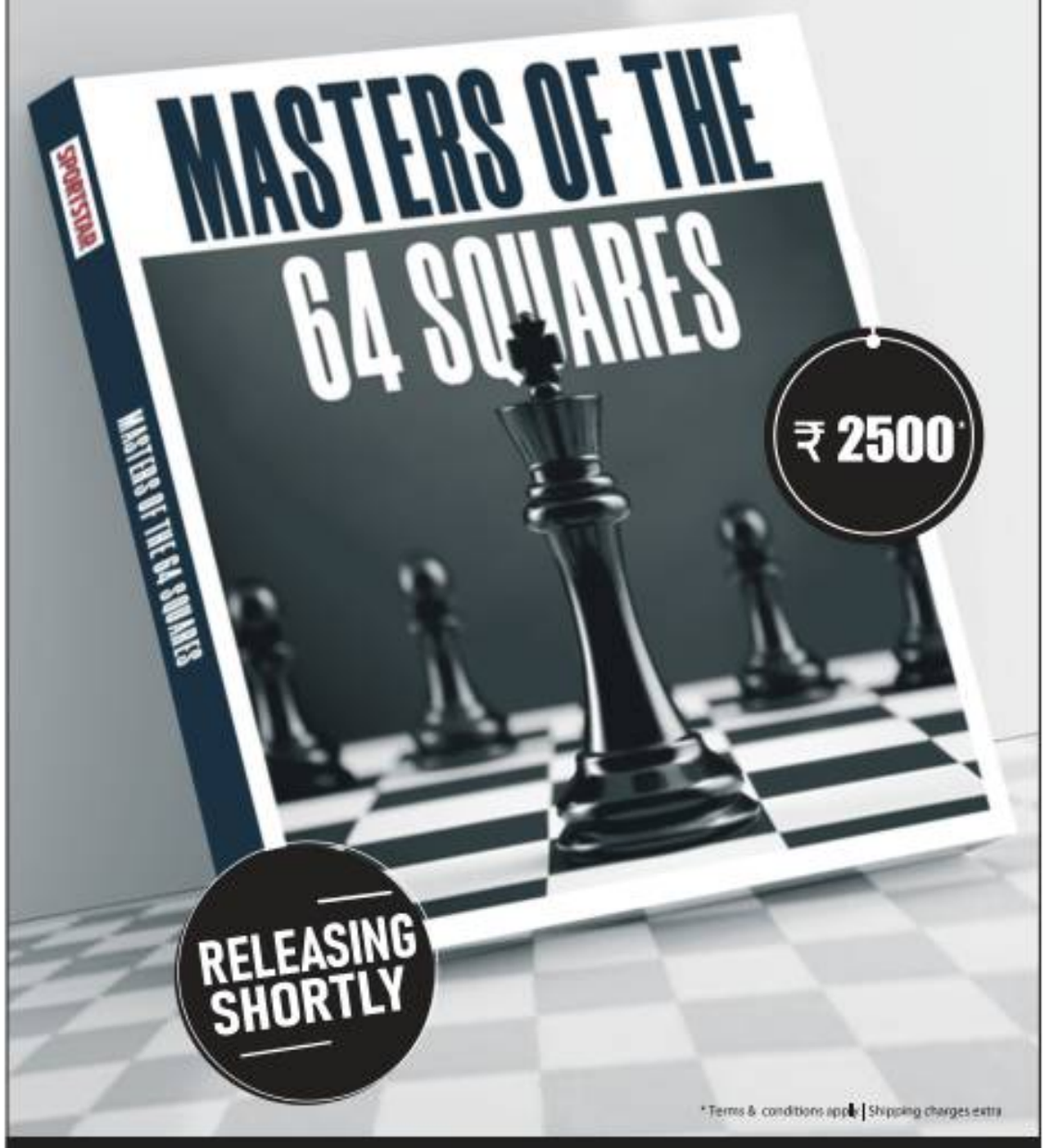

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Timings
BENGALURU

FRIDAY, JUL. 29		
Sun	RISE 06:05	SET 18:48
Moon	RISE 06:23	SET 19:30
SATURDAY, JUL. 30		
Sun	RISE 06:05	SET 18:47
Moon	RISE 07:14	SET 20:11
SUNDAY, JUL. 31		
Sun	RISE 06:05	SET 18:47
Moon	RISE 08:04	SET 20:50

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	31	24
Mysuru	30	21
Bengaluru	29	21

Bengaluru Today
29°C A slight warm and humid weather to prevail. Night will be pleasant. Spell of moderate rain and thundershower will occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
28°C The weather will be comfortable but humid. Night will be pleasant. Few spells of moderate rain and thunder-shower is likely.

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THE HINDU
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'A good PHC could have saved my husband'

Wife of slain Yuva Morcha leader speaks to Chief Minister

RAGHAVA M.
NETTARU (SULLIA TALUK)

"If the primary health centre here had been working well and had manpower, my husband may have been saved. Why don't you shut the centre?" asked Nutan, the inconsolable wife of Praveen Nettaru, when Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai visited the family.

She also told him no amount of compensation could fill the void created by the death of her husband, a BJP Yuva Morcha activist. The party machinery had not immediately rushed to the help of the family, she complained. Vasanth, a relative, also urged Mr. Bommai to take action against the police who resorted to unprovoked lathi-charge on activists at Bellare on Wednesday.

Speaking to reporters later, Mr. Bommai termed the murder of Praveen Nettaru as not just a murder, but a "terrorist act" and promised that the government will leave no stone unturned in breaking up the structure of organisations involved in such acts.

Mr. Bommai was speaking to reporters after consoling the family members of Praveen at his house and handing over a cheque for ₹25 lakh from CM Relief Fund as the compensation towards death due to communal violence at Nettaru in Sullia taluk of Dakshina Kannada district. Prima facie it was a pre-planned murder and such crimes were on the rise in Dakshina Kannada-Udupi belt since a decade or so with the support of anti-social elements.

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai with the family members of BJP worker Praveen Nettaru at his residence in Bellare, Sullia taluk, Dakshina Kannada district on Thursday. •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The government is already in touch with central agencies that are cooperating in the probe while Karnataka Additional DGP (Law and Order) Alok Kumar was camping in the district since two days leading the investigation. The probe would cover all angles, from the murder to organisations behind the crime and soon the perpetrators of the murder would be arrested.

Mr. Bommai said the government would pressurise the Centre to sanction a National Investigation Agency (NIA) set up in Karnataka, particularly in Mangaluru to curb anti-social and anti-National elements. If the preliminary probe reveals necessity of conducting a larger probe under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act, the government would definitely handover the case to NIA.

BJP State President and DK MP Nalin Kumar Kateel, legislators from the district, State BJP organisational secretary Rajesh and others accompanied Mr. Bommai.

Cong. seeks judicial probe

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Former Minister and Congress MLA Priyank Kharge on Thursday demanded a judicial probe into the killing of BJP Yuva Morcha office-bearer Praveen Nettaru in Dakshina Kannada. He also demanded judicial probe into all communal-related killings in the State.

Murder of activist was planned: ADGP

RAGHAVA M.
MANGALURU

Karnataka is on high alert following the murder of 32-year-old BJP Yuva Morcha activist Praveen Nettaru. Police have increased vigil to prevent any untoward incident, said Additional Director General of Police (Law and Order) Alok Kumar in Mangaluru on Thursday.

"Eleven platoons of KSRP have been stationed in sensitive places across Dakshina Kannada district, and six KSRP platoons are in Mangaluru city," Mr. Kumar told *The Hindu*.

On the ongoing investigation, he said, "It was a planned crime. When a crime is planned, the assailants ensure that they do not leave any trace that leads to them. This makes it difficult to trace the assailants. But all efforts are being made to crack the case." Police are also investigating a possible link to the murder of 18-year-old Masood on July 21 near Bellare. That killing was the fallout of an altercation between Masood and an eight-member group during which Masood was injured. Later, he succumbed to injuries.

"Those behind the murder of Praveen will be dealt with in a firm way," he said.

Apart from investigating involvement of fundamentalist forces from Kerala, Mr. Kumar said the police is also looking at the Facebook post of Praveen following the June 28 murder of Kanhaiyalal, a tailor in Udaipur. "We are looking at various angles. A team is looking at human intelligence, while another team is giving technical inputs. The State police is working as team to crack the case," he said.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice under Section 7(2) of the KPID Act 2004 Calling Claims from the depositors and secured creditors of the AJMEERA GROUP:

1. The depositors & secured creditors of the AJMEERA GROUP are invited to submit their claim applications in person or through post.
2. The claim application shall be submitted to the Competent Authority, M/s Ajmeera Group in the **Office of the Special Officer and Competent Authority, 3rd Floor, Podium Block, V.V.Tower, Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru-560001.**
3. Claim applications shall be submitted from **30.07.2022 to 29.08.2022** during the office hours
4. The claim applicants shall submit following documents along with the claim application: **1)** Claim Application, **2)** Attested copy of Aadhar Card, **3)** Attested copy of PAN **4)** Notarized copy of Investment Agreement/MOU signed between the claimant and the financial establishment, **5)** Certified copy of the bank pass sheets from the date of investing the deposit with the financial establishment to till date certified by the concerned Bank. **6)** Certified copy the pass book of the account containing details of Name of the account holder, Bank Name & Branch Name, Account No, IFSC code certified by the concerned bank through which the claimant or his/her legal heirs would like to receive the claimed amount.
5. In case of death of the original depositor, his or her legal heir can apply with death certificate of the original claimant and family tree issued by jurisdictional Competent Authority.
6. In case of more than one legal heirs, consent of the co-legal heirs duly notarized shall be submitted along with the claim application.
7. As per Section 7(4) and 7(5) of the Act, the secured creditors are required to value the security before the expiry of period of 1 month from the date of publication of notice and send it along their claim statements, failing which the competent authority shall get the valuation of the security to the best of its judgement which shall be binding on the secured creditors.
8. As per Section 7(3) of the Act, any claim applications received after the last date of submission will not be treated as claims entitled to be paid under the provisions of the Act.
9. Any submission of wrongful or fictitious claims will not only render the claims liable for rejection but will also make the applicants liable for appropriate criminal action.
10. For downloading claim application and for further information visit **www.imaclaimsmanagement.com**.

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Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited

(CIN : U40109KA1999SGC025521)

TENDER NOTIFICATION

(THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT PORTAL MODE ONLY)

KPTCL invites bids for the following works.

No. SEE/T(W&M)/MYS/EEE(O)/AEE-1/22-23/2454-58 — Dated: 27.07.2022

1. Bid Enquiry No.: **KPTCL/SEE/EEE(O)/AEE-1/T(W&M)/MYS/REPL/13,** Replacement of 1x6.3MVA, 66/11KV Power Transformer by 1x8 MVA, 66/11kV Power Transformers at Doddabyadarahalli 66/11kV Sub-station in Pandavapura Taluk, Mandya District on PTK Basis.
2. Bid Enquiry No.: **KPTCL/SEE/EEE(O)/AEE-1/T(W&M)/MYS/REPL/14,** Replacement of 1x6.3 MVA, 66/11KV Power Transformer by 1x8 MVA, 66/11kV Power Transformers at Anegola 66/11kV Sub-station in K.R. Pete Taluk, Mandya District on PTK Basis.
3. Bid Enquiry No.: **KPTCL/SEE/EEE(O)/AEE-1/T(W&M)/MYS/REPL/15,** Replacement of 1x8MVA Power Transformer by 1x12.5 MVA Power Transformer, 66/11kV Sub-station at Attigulipura in Chamarajanagara Taluk & District on PTK Basis.
4. Bid Enquiry No.: **KPTCL/SEE/EEE(O)/AEE-1/T(W&M)/MYS/REPL/16,** Enhancement of 1x8MVA, 66/11KV Power Transformer-2 by 1x12.5 MVA, 66/11KV Power transformer at 66/11KV, Pannyadahundi in Chamarajanagara Taluk & District on PTK Basis.
5. Bid Enquiry No.: **KPTCL/SEE/EEE(O)/AEE-1/T(W&M)/MYS/REPL/17,** Replacement of 1x12.5MVA, 66/11KV Power Transformer-2 by 1x20 MVA, 66/11KV Power Transformer at Kollegala 66/11kV Sub-station in Kollegala Taluk & Chamarajanagara District on PTK Basis.
6. Bid Enquiry No.: **KPTCL/SEE/EEE(O)/AEE-1/T(W&M)/MYS/REPL/18,**Replacement of 1x8 by 1x12.5MVA Transformer, 66/11kV Sub-station at Sathegala in Kollegala Taluk & Chamarajnagar District on PTK Basis.
7. Bid Enquiry No.: **KPTCL/SEE/EEE(O)/AEE-1/T(W&M)/MYS/REPL/19,** Replacement of 1x6.3MVA by 1x12.5MVA Transformer, 66/11kV Sub-station at Bommalapura in Gundlupete Taluk & Chamarajnagar District on PTK Basis.
8. Bid Enquiry No.: **KPTCL/SEE/EEE(O)/AEE-1/T(W&M)/MYS/ADDL/25,** Providing Additional 1x8MVA, 66/11KV Power Transformer along with necessary Switchgear at 66/11KV Taripura Sub-Station in Srirangapatna Taluk and Mandya District on PTK Basis.
9. Bid Enquiry No.: **KPTCL/SEE/EEE(O)/AEE-1/T(W&M)/MYS/ADDL/26,** Providing additional 1X8MVA 66/11kV Power Transformer at Doora 66/11kV Sub-station in Mysuru Taluk & District on PTK Basis.

No. SEE/T(W&M)/MYS/EEE(O)/AEE-2/AE-1/22-23/2462 — Dated: 28.07.2022

10. Bid Enquiry No.: **KPTCL/SEE/TWM/SM/Htgly/456-496 Date: 28.07.2022,** Providing manpower services for carrying out shift operations and maintenance works at 66/11KV & 220/66/11 KV Sub-stations pertaining to TL&SS Division Hootagally KPTCL, Mysuru, coming under the jurisdiction of Transmission Circle, KPTCL, Mysuru.
11. Bid Enquiry No.: **KPTCL/SEE/TWM/SM/CRN/497-517 Date: 28.07.2022,** Providing manpower services for carrying out shift operations and maintenance works at 66/11KV & 220/66/11 KV Sub-stations pertaining to TL&SS Division CR Nagara KPTCL, Mysuru, coming under the jurisdiction of Transmission Circle, KPTCL, Mysuru.
12. Bid Enquiry No.: **KPTCL/SEE/TWM/SM/Mdy/518-545 Date: 28.07.2022,** Providing manpower services for carrying out shift operations and maintenance works at 66/11KV & 220/66/11 KV Sub-stations pertaining to TL&SS Division Mysore (NRM), KPTCL, Mysuru, coming under the jurisdiction of Transmission Circle, KPTCL, Mysuru.

The details regarding participation in the e-tendering process can be obtained by logging on to KPTCL website: **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** with hyperlink **"e-procurement-kptcl"** or **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **02.08.2022** for Sl No.1 to 9 & **01.08.2022** for Sl No.10 to 12. Any other details can be had from the office of the undersigned during office hours.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer, El., Transmission(W&M)Circle, KPTCL, 1st Floor, 'Prasarana Bhavana', N.R.Mohalla, Mysuru - 570 007.

KARNATAKA STATE ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION

Central Offices: Department of Accounts
Post Bag No: 2778, Shanthinagar: Bangalore-560 027.

No.KST/CO/ACC/BS/Loan/1523/2022-23 — Date: 28.07.2022

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Availment of Rs. 220 Crores Term Loan for procurement of New Buses

Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) intend to avail term loan of **Rs. 220/-** Crores (Rupees Two Hundred Twenty Crores only) to meet the Capital Expenditure towards procurement of new Buses during the year 2022-23 on following terms and conditions:

1. Proposed Loan amount will be drawn in a phased manner. **2.** New Buses procured will be offered as primary security for the Loan. **3.** The tenure of the Loan shall be for a period of **Seven years**. **4.** Re-payment of instalment after a Moratorium **period of 6 Months**. **5.** Offer is invited to sanction the Loan at One Month/3 Months/Half Year/ yearly MCLR Rate of the Bank. KSRTC reserves the right to avail the loan at the rate which is most beneficial to the Corporation. **6.** Payment of processing fee/up-front fee/pre-payment charges/Annual inspection charges or any other charges, shall be waived. **7.** The Corporation will furnish a list of vehicles procured and provide particulars of chassis number, registration numbers and cost of vehicle to the bank as security to the Loan. In any case charge on the R.C. Books by RTO will not be executed. **8.** KSRTC reserves the right to vary terms, conditions, pre-close and amend tenure of the proposed loan. **9.** KSRTC reserve rights to amend the period, and accept / reject the Tender Notification. **10.** All Scheduled and Nationalized Banks can participate in the tender and shall submit their proposal in a **sealed cover**, addressed to **'CAO-FA, KSRTC CENTRAL OFFICES, K.H. Road, Shanthi Nagar, Bangalore 560 027,** super-scribed with "Expression of Interest for sanction of Term Loan of **Rs.220 Crores**". **11.** The Expression of Interest shall be submitted on or before **18.08.2022 at 4.00 p.m.**

Sd/-
Chief Accounts Officer cum F.A

DIPR/CP/JA/1549/2022-23

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KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED

(CIN : U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No: SEE/EE/Tr(W&M)/DVG/EE/AEE-2/F-114/22-23/Cys-35 Date: 28.07.2022

TENDER NOTIFICATION - CALL-2

(E-PROCUREMENT MODE ONLY)

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1) Bid Enquiry No. KPTCL/SEE/Tr(W&M)/DVG/EE/AEE-2/22-23/8 CALL-2 Dt: 27.07.2022 for Replacement of 03 Nos of age old 11KV KIOSK Breakers by PCVCB's at 66/11 KV MUSS **J G Halli** in Chitradurga District. **Category:** ST

2) Bid Enquiry No. KPTCL/SEE/Tr(W&M)/DVG/EE/AEE-2/22-23/9 CALL-2 Dt: 27.07.2022 for Providing 02 Nos of additional 11KV PCVCB's at 66/11 KV Station **J G Halli** in Chitradurga District. **Category:** Others

3) Bid Enquiry No. KPTCL/SEE/Tr(W&M)/DVG/EE/AEE-2/22-23/10 CALL- 2 Dt: 27.07.2022 for Providing 02 Nos of additional 11 KV PCVCB type switchgears for arranging power supply to link lines of over loaded F-1 Kundalagura and F-6 aluru feeders at 66/11 KV MUSS **Ranganathapura** in Chitradurga District. **Category:** Others

4) Bid Enquiry No. KPTCL/SEE/Tr(W&M)/DVG/EE/AEE-2/22-23/11 CALL-2 Dt: 27.07.2022 for Replacement of 01 No of 11KV Capacitor Bank PCVCB type switch gear at 66/11 KV Station, **Ranganathapura** in Hiriyur Taluk Chitradurga District. **Category:** SC.

5) Bid Enquiry No. KPTCL/SEE/Tr(W&M)/DVG/EE/AEE-2/22-23/12 CALL-2 Dt: 27.07.2022 for Providing additional 02 Nos of MCVCB's at 66/11 KV Station MUSS Thallak in Chitradurga District. **Category:** Others.

Tenders will be accepted through E-Procurement mode only. For further details, prospective Bidders are advised to log on to website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** or **https://kptcl.gov.in** & click on hyperlink e-procurement-kptcl to participate in e-procurement portal on or after **29.07.2022.**

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PERSONAL — ANNOUNCEMENTS

I, NO.15771262Y Rank: BHM(OPR) Name: Safikul Islam presently serving in 325 Lt AD Regt (Comp), declare that my wife Soma Akhtar's date of birth is wrongly mentioned as 15.05.1986 in my Army records. I state that my wife's actual and correct date of birth is 05.05.1986 vide Affidavit dated 20.07.2022 sworn before Notary G.B.Turamari, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, HARISH Thimmegowda state that for and on behalf of my son have changed his Old name from Chatur H to new name Aarav Gowda H born on 25-09-2010 residing at 122/60 Nethravathi street 2nd cross Udayanagar Doorvaninagar Post Bangalore-560016 vide affidavit no IN-KA38366181029973U sworn before Notary Vasudeva Dated 7th June-2022

I, EVELYN Caroline Ema Pereira W/o Joseph Marcelo Pereira, R/s No.5, Paranjyothi road, Frazer town, Bangalore-05 hereby state that the names Evelyn Pereira, Evelyn E.C.Pereira, Evelyn Caroline Ema Pereira, Evelyn Caroline Pereira and Evelyn.C.Pereira refer to one and the same person i.e., myself only. Hence forth I will be using the name as Evelyn Pereira in future for all the purposes vide affidavit dt: 19.07.2022 sworn before Notary M.Narendran, B'lore.

PERSONAL — CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Mrs. KAMALJIT PHILIP, aged about 68 years, wife of Col. Joseph Philip, presently residing at No.165, Dream Meadows, near Ryans International School, Brooke Field, Marathahalli Colony, Bengaluru-560037,

"I, Mrs. KAMAL PHILIP, have on this 25th day of July 2022, amended my name to KAMALJIT PHILIP, Vide affidavit dated 25th July 2022, before VI Addl. Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Bengaluru.

I, ANIMA Goyal D/O Shri Pawan Kumar R/O Kalanwali, Distt. Sirsa, Haryana - 125201, have changed my name from Anjali Goyal to Anima Goyal, sworn before Notary Lachhman Dass, Mandi Dabwali (Sirsa).

THANKSGIVING

THANKS LORD for listening to my prayers. Be with us always. Dina

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LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF 13th ADDL CITY CIVIL JUDGE, MAYOHALL UNIT AT BANGALORE (CCH 22)
O.S. No. 26533/2020

BETWEEN :
M/s. ICICI BANK LIMITED
Mittal Tower, M.G. Road, Bangalore- 560001 Represented by its Manager and power of Attorney Holder **Mr. Pramodh G.**
AND
Mr. Nagendra R
S/o Rajashekara
Aged about 44 years
No.256, Bhovi Colony, 3rd Floor, 8th Cross, St. Anthony School Road, Guruswamy Building, Ram Murthy Nagar, Bangalore- 560038

UNDER ORDER 5 RULE 20 OF THE CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE

Whereas, the above named plaintiff has filed a Civil Suit for Recovery of a sum of **Rs. 3,51,054.99/- (Rupees Three Lakhs Fifty One Thousand Fifty Four and Paise Ninety Nine Only)**, apart from future interest in **O.S.No. 26533/2020** and same is pending adjudication in **CCH-22,** Before 13th Addl., City Civil Court, Mayohall, Bengaluru.

You are hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble Court on the 24th Day of August 2022 at 11 A.M. to answer to the same, if failed the suit will be decided in your absence, Exparte.

Given under my Hand and Seal of the Court this the 26.07.2022.

Deputy Registrar, City Civil Court, Mayohall, BENGALURU- 560 001

FX & Co., ADVOCATES, New NO.9, OLD NO. 11/1 Gover Road, Cox Town, BENGALURU- 560 005.

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF 73rd ADDL. CITY CIVIL JUDGE, MAYOHALL AT BANGALORE (CCH-74)
O.S. No. 25158/2022

BETWEEN :
M/s. ICICI BANK LIMITED
Mittal Tower, M.G. Road,
Bangalore- 560001
Represented by its Manager and Power of Attorney Holder
Mr. Pramodh G. .Plaintiff
V/s
Ms. Tirumala Bindu. T .Defendant
Summons To Defendant
Ms. Tirumala Bindu. T,
D/o Tirumala Manohara Reddy, Aged About 30 Years, No. 555, 1st Floor, Swati Nilaya, Munniyappa Layout, K R Puram, Bangalore-560036.

Whereas, the above named plaintiff has filed a Civil Suit for Recovery of a sum of **Rs. 7,78,547.80/- (Rupees Seven Lakhs Seventy Eight Thousand Five Hundred and Forty Seven and Paise Eighty Only)** apart from future interest of **13.99% p.a.**, in **O.S. No. 25158/2022** and same is pending adjudication in **CCH74,** Before 73rd Addl. City Civil Court, Mayohall, Bengaluru.

You are hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble Court on the 8th Day of September 2022 at 11 A.M. to answer to the same, if failed the suit will be decided in your absence, Ex-parte.

Given under my Hand and Seal of the Court this the 26th day of July 2022.

By the Order of Court Deputy Registrar, City Civil Court, Mayohall, BENGALURU-560001

FX & CO., ADVOCATES, New No. 9, OLD NO.11/1 Gover Road, Cox Town, BENGALURU- 560005.

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF 73rd ADDL. CITY CIVIL JUDGE, MAYOHALL AT BANGALORE (CCH-74)
O.S. No. 25865/2019

BETWEEN :
M/s. ICICI BANK LIMITED
Mittal Tower, M.G. Road,
Bangalore- 560001
Represented by its Manager and Power of Attorney Holder
Mr. Pramodh G. .Plaintiff
V/s
Ms. Hitha P .Defendant
Summons To Defendant
Ms. Hitha P,
D/o Prem Kumar, Aged About 38 Years, No. 65, 1st Floor, K 4th "C" Main, Bhuvanagiri, OMBR Layout, Banaswadi Post, Land Mark Old Chaya Hospital Road, Bangalore-560043.

Whereas, the above named plaintiff has filed a Civil Suit for Recovery of a sum of **Rs.5,19,489.14/- (Rupees Five Lakhs Nineteen Thousand Four Hundred and Eighty Nine and Paise Fourteen Only)** apart from future interest of **18% p.a.**, in **O.S. No. 25865/2019** and same is pending adjudication in **CCH74,** Before 73rd Addl. City Civil Court, Mayohall, Bengaluru.

You are hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble Court on the 12th Day of September 2022 at 11 A.M. to answer to the same, if failed the suit will be decided in your absence, Ex-parte.

Given under my Hand and Seal of the Court this the 26th day of July 2022.

By Order of the Court Deputy Registrar, City Civil Court, Mayohall, BENGALURU-560001

FX & CO., ADVOCATES, New No. 9, OLD NO.11/1 Gover Road, Cox Town, BENGALURU- 560005.

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF 73rd ADDL. CITY CIVIL JUDGE, MAYOHALL AT BANGALORE (CCH-74)
O.S. No. 25152/2022

BETWEEN :
M/s. ICICI BANK LIMITED
Mittal Tower, M.G. Road,
Bangalore- 560001
Represented by its Manager and Power of Attorney Holder
Mr. Pramodh G. .Plaintiff
V/s
Mr. Manjunatha MM .Defendant
Summons To Defendant
Mr. Manjunatha MM
S/o Munivenkatappa,
Aged About 38 Years, 81, Residency Road, Richmond Town, Bangalore-560025.

Whereas, the above named plaintiff has filed a Civil Suit for Recovery of a sum of **Rs. 4,95,363.73/- (Rupees Four Lakhs Ninety Five Thousand Three Hundred and Sixty Three and Paise Seventy Three Only)** apart from future interest of **15.99% p.a.**, in **O.S. No. 25152/2022** and same is pending adjudication in **CCH74,** Before 73rd Addl. City Civil Court, Mayohall, Bengaluru.

You are hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble Court on the 8th Day of September 2022 at 11 A.M. to answer to the same, if failed the suit will be decided in your absence, Ex-parte.

Given under my Hand and Seal of the Court this the 26th day of July 2022.

By Order of the Court Deputy Registrar, City Civil Court, Mayohall, BENGALURU-560001

FX & CO., ADVOCATES, New No. 9, OLD NO.11/1 Gover Road, Cox Town, BENGALURU- 560005.

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'Adityanath model' may also be tried in Karnataka: Bommai

'We have declared war against organised crime which is trying to disturb peace'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

A day after the funeral of murdered Bharatiya Janata Party Yuva Morcha activist Praveen Nettaru in Dakshina Kannada, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai declared that Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath 'model of governance' too would be tried in Karnataka, if need be, to crush forces disturbing communal harmony.

The Chief Minister was replying to a query at a media conference on the demand from the BJP cadre to act sternly against Praveen's murderers, including replicating measures initiated by Mr. Adityanath.

"Yogi is the right choice to handle the situation in U.P. In Karnataka, we are exercising all the available options to manage the situation. If need be, Yogi model too would be exercised in Karnataka," he remarked.

Police personnel in Puttur, Mangaluru, on Thursday. • PTI

"We have declared a big war against organised crime trying to disturb communal peace. People will see its impact in the coming days."

He asserted that there was no question of compromising on the law and order situation in Karnataka, and appealed to people to maintain peace. "We have taken Praveen's murder very seriously. Already, five teams of police have been sent to Kerala as part of the investigation. We are confident of nabbing the culprits quickly, like we did with respect to the murder of Hindutva activist Harsha," he said.

'Difficult to ban PFI, SDPI'

On the demand for a ban on the Popular Front of India (PFI) and the Social Democratic Party of India (SDPI), the Chief Minister said such a call had to be taken by the Centre and not States. Some States were faced with stays by courts after they tried to ban these organisations, he said.

Pointing out that Karnataka had submitted reports to the Centre as evidence to emphasise the need to ban these organisations, he said the Centre was expected to take an appropriate decision in this regard.

"The powers that disturb communal harmony are seen throughout the country, including Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, and U.P. In the last 10 years, these forces have raised their ugly head in Karnataka," he said.

Admitting that communal tension would be a diversion from development activities, the Chief Minister claimed that his government had successfully handled these challenges by ensuring that the pace of development was not affected.

Man killed in Surathkal; ban orders imposed

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MANGALURU

A 22-year-old man was hacked to death by unidentified miscreants near a garment shop in Surathkal Police limits on Thursday night. Fazil of Mangalpet had come to the shop at around 9 p.m. Fazil, who works as a loader in a LPG unit, usually visits the shop after his work.

As Fazil was standing outside the shop, four masked men came in a car and assaulted him with sharp weapons. They left the spot soon after he collapsed. Fazil was taken to a private hospital where he died.

The shop in front of which the murder took place in Surathkal on Thursday night. • RAGHAVA M.

Immediately, Police Commissioner N. Shashi Kumar imposed prohibitory orders under Section 144 of Cr.PC in Panambur, Surathkal, Mulky and Bajpe police limits till 6 a.m. on Saturday. Mr. Kumar said that the reason for the attack is not known. "We will quickly trace the accused," he added.

He also appealed to Muslims to offer their Friday prayers adhering to prohibitory orders, preferably in mosques nearest to them.

Meanwhile, the police did not link the killing to the BJP Yuva Morcha worker's murder on Tuesday.

Home Minister Araga Jnanendra said that no one taking the law into their hands will be spared.

Rebellion in BJP youth wing, social media teams

Hundreds resign across State

KARNATAKA BUREAU
BENGALURU

The murder of Bharatiya Janata Party worker Praveen Nettaru has led to an unprecedented rebellion within the party's Yuva Morcha and social media teams – hundreds of party functionaries from the two units have resigned across the State.

This may push the party, already in a damage control mode, and the State government into taking a more strident stand and hard Hindutva line.

BJP Yuva Morcha workers and office bearers have resigned in Chikkamagaluru, Karwar, Bagalkot, Koppal, Gadag, Davanagere, Haveri, Vijayanagara, Kalaburagi and Mysuru. Office bearers of BJP social media and IT cell in Vijayapura, Belagavi, have tendered their resignations, while in several other office bearers have also resigned.

Most of those who have resigned have alleged "Hindu activists have no security" despite the State and Union governments both led by the BJP and that the party leaders were not standing by workers. BJP had made the alleged "communal murders" of 22 Hindutva activists during the previous regime a poll plank in 2018, but killing of two Hindutva workers (Harsha in Shivamogga and Praveen Nettaru in Dakshina Kannada) this year has angered party workers.

Sandeep Ramanagouda Patil Zalki, head of Vijayapura district BJP social media cell, said 72 members of the cell had resigned. "Our fight is against some weak leaders in the State BJP who are undeserving of our respect. Our resignations are to make the State government understand that State-level leaders have failed to ensure security," he said.

A BJP Yuva Morcha office bearer Lohit from Mysuru apparently resigned citing he was "not feeling safe" and that his parents had advised him to disassociate from the party over safety concerns. MLA Abhay Patil, from Belagavi said that he had never seen such outrage against the party in his 32 years of public life.

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www.thehindu.com

Text & Context

A weekday feature on *The Hindu* epaper (epaper.thehindu.com) which includes explainers, special articles and a quiz. In the latest issue (July 29, Friday), the following explainers are available:

- **Explained** | The challenges of power grab in Tunisia
  bit.ly/tunisiapower
- **Explainer** | Reviving BSNL in a competitive telecom market
  bit.ly/revivebsnl
- **In the limelight** | A delectable recipe for success
  bit.ly/successrec

Online exclusives

- **Read** | Chennai's Museum of Possibilities - Ensuring BLISSful life for persons with disabilities
  bit.ly/blissfulvideo
- **Watch** | How does this elephant camp in Tamil Nadu tame wild tuskers?
  bit.ly/tamingtuskers
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You can use your smartphone's inbuilt features to access these articles. If it's an Android phone, use Google Lens to read and tap the url to access the article. If it's an iPhone, use Live Text on camera to do the same.

Power shutdown tomorrow

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

There will be disruption in power supply on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in view of quarterly maintenance works.

According to a press release from BESCOM, the areas which will be affected are: 66/IIKV Bagmane Tech Park MUSS: Byrasandra Gundappa Layout, Om Shakthi Temple, Kaggadasapura Ist Cross to 19th Cross, Bhuvaneshwari Nagar and surrounding areas.

66/KV Electronic City Phase-2 Section-1 (Velankini) MUSS: G.B. Palya, Lakshmi Layout, Raghavendra Layout, New MICO Layout, Vajpayee Nagar, Hosur Main Road, Begur Main Road, Sriram Nagara, Hongasandra Village, Balaji Layout, BHEL, Doddathogur Village, Vinayaka Layout, Celebrity Housing Layout, Konappana Agrahara Village, NGR Layout, Gulbarga Colony, Silk Board junction and part of Bommanahalli, Electronic City and surrounding areas.

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Rising tiger numbers pose new challenges for park managers in Bandipur

Poaching of prey animals, habitat disturbance identified as threats

R. KRISHNA KUMAR
MYSURU

The increase in tiger population in Bandipur due to strong protection measures coupled with a rise in the conflict situation in the villages on the forest periphery has brought to fore new challenges in balancing conservation imperatives and human needs.

As conservationists take stock of the status of tiger and the existential threats to the species to mark International Tiger Day on Friday, the authorities at Bandipur Tiger Reserve, which is spread across 912 sq. km, are grappling with the urgency of increasing the buffer zone to act as a sink to absorb the rise in tiger numbers.

Other tiger reserves too

And what is true for Bandipur is also true for Nagarahole and other tiger reserves to a large extent. According to the 2018 tiger estimates, Bandipur harboured 126 tigers as per the camera trap images. But the actual number is around 173 as cubs were not accounted for during the census exercise, according to the park authorities.

The increase in tiger numbers in the core area has resulted in frequent territorial fights with the dominant male ejecting the weaker one which disperses to the buffer or strays into human landscape on the periphery resulting in conflicts. There are 156 villages around Bandipur supporting a human population of nearly 1.25 lakh besides 1.26 livestock population. "Attending to human-animal conflict takes almost 70% of our time and resources as a result of which other equally important conservation works get affected," said Ramesh Kumar, Director, Bandipur Tiger Reserve.

Authorities at Bandipur Tiger Reserve are grappling with the urgency of increasing the buffer zone to act as a sink to absorb the rise in tiger numbers. • FILE PHOTO

INTERNATIONAL TIGER DAY

Though the conflicts have to mainly do with elephants, tigers are increasingly being sighted on the forest periphery as well and have to be captured or pushed back, Mr. Ramesh Kumar added.

The authorities have also flagged poaching as a cause of concern in the long run. While tiger poaching by international and organised networks has more or less been eliminated, the threat to tigers arises from the poaching of prey animals such as sambar, chital or barking deer by the local population for domestic consumption. A reduction in prey base can have a negative bearing on tiger population besides increasing conflict situations.

During the peak of COVID-19 and the resultant lockdown, the adjoining Nagarahole Tiger Reserve reported as many as 47 poaching incidents, underlining the seriousness of hunting of prey animals. This is equally true for Bandipur, M.M. Hills, and Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuaries and there have been calls for coopting local community and making them stakeholders in wildlife conservation.

Given the rise in wildlife population in general and tiger numbers in particular, the authorities have plans to augment the buffer zone and have identified land abutting the forest boundary.

"This includes gomal land and we are pushing for final notification to get at least 300 to 500 hectares declared as a reserve forest," said Mr. Ramesh Kumar. This is expected to act as a sink to absorb the wildlife population, he added.

However, conservation activist Giridhar Kulkarni said the success of the Forest Department in tiger conservation and augmenting the buffer zone is commendable, but it should take stock of the disturbances in the existing Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) as well and pull down the illegal structures to minimise disturbance to wildlife.

The proliferation of the non-edible weed lantana is another issue affecting most wildlife reserves, including Bandipur, Nagarahole, BRT Tiger Reserve, Bhadra, and M.M. Hills, and will impact the fodder availability of prey animals. But at present, there is no viable solution in sight for their removal.

A ride into, and for wilderness

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

Participants of 'Wilderness on wheels - voice of the voiceless', which will be flagged off on Friday, will get to be a part of conservation awareness rides.

The nine rides, being organised by Reroute Integrated Fitness in association with the Forest Department, will cover all the forest locations in Karnataka and each ride will start from and end in Bengaluru. The rides range from 50 km to 1,100 km.

Participants have the option to be part of the complete event or select individual rides as per their convenience and be part of the much bigger cause.

The group of motorists aim to raise awareness on various issues the country's wildlife is facing. "We aim to be the voice of the voiceless and hope to bridge the gap between the general public and the forests and help better understand how the ecology works," said Sandeep Shah, founder and director of Reroute Integrated Fitness.

Circular on religious chanting contest flayed

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

A group of like-minded intellectuals has condemned the introduction of a recitation competition of religious texts under the Prathibha Karanji programme for primary and high school students.

A circular issued by the Education Department's Directorate of Urdu and Other Minority Language Schools on July 25 has stated that students can only chant the Bhagavad Gita in Sanskrit and the Koran in Arabic.

Pointing out that secularism is a constitutional value, they said that it is better not to bring issues pertaining to religion in public institutions. "If at all such a competition is necessary, chanting of portions from the holy books of all religions should be allowed," they said in the statement on Thursday.

"Instead of religious chanting, paras or sentences from prose, poetry or songs by noted poets, social thinkers, and human rights/child rights activists that uphold human values and equality should be chanted. This is essential to ensure the principles of secularism and humanism are followed in schools," the statement added.

The signatories include Niranjanaradhya V.P., G. Ramakrishna, Vasundhara Bhupathi, Mallige, T.R. Chandrasekhar, Gopalakrishna Nairy, and B.N. Yogananda.

Chief Minister launches Swami Vivekananda Yuvashakti Yojane

Bommai announces a slew of welfare programmes to mark his govt.'s anniversary

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Thursday launched a slew of welfare measures, including the Swami Vivekananda Yuvashakti Yojane that aims at empowerment of rural youth, to mark first anniversary of his government.

Under the Swami Vivekananda Yuvashakti programme, a self-help group of youth would be created in each of 28,000 villages with a seed money for ₹1.5 lakh for every group, the Chief Minister said at a press conference.

The scheme would also aim at empowering about five lakh youth to take up self-employment besides linking their SHGs with banks and markets, he said.

The other schemes that were launched on Thursday include providing 75 units of free power a month to 25 lakh poor SC/ST families at a cost of ₹700 crore, building 8,000 school rooms under the Viveka scheme of improving school infrastructure, Babu Jagjivan Ram self-employment scheme, upgrading 100 primary health centres into community health centres, Sthree Samarthya scheme of empowerment of Sthree Shakti groups, extension of the Vidya Nidhi scholarship programme to children of weavers, fishermen and taxi drivers, besides the Punya Koti scheme of adopting cows in *goshalas* or making an annual donation of ₹11,000 to take care of them.

First anniversary: Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai with Home Minister Araga Jnanendra during a press meet in Bengaluru on Thursday. • SUDHAKARA JAIN

For all communities

While launching the schemes, the Chief Minister promised to strengthen the State's economy through comprehensive programmes so that it would help development of all communities and classes.

Listing the achievements of his government in the last one year, he said the focus had been given to the welfare of all sections, especially SCs/STs and the poor. Also serious efforts had been made towards removing regional imbalance, he said.

He maintained that people of the State would give him "10 out of 10" for his performance in the last one year.

Mr. Bommai, who abruptly cancelled the Janotsava programme that was scheduled to be held at Doddaballapur to mark the first anniversary of his government, maintained that he had gone by his conscience while making such a decision. "I decided to cancel the programme following anguish among BJP workers about the murder of Hindu activist Praveen," he said.

On Cabinet expansion

To a query on the status of ministerial expansion, the Chief Minister said, "I will arrive at an appropriate decision in this regard in consultation with the party central leaders perhaps during my next visit to Delhi," he said.

Other key schemes

- 75 units of free power a month to 25 lakh poor SC/ST families
- 8,000 school rooms to be built under Viveka scheme
- 100 PHCs to be upgraded into community health centres

Kannada organisations oppose Maharashtra university offer

Varsity to provide free education to border area students

RISHIKESH BAHADUR DESAI
BELAGAVI

Some Kannada organisations have condemned the Maharashtra government's scheme of offering free higher education to Marathi-speaking students from border areas, saying it is politically motivated and would further damage Kannada-Marathi relations in Karnataka.

A team of academicians, led by Bharati Patil, met some students, teachers, and activists to brief them about the scheme. She said that while residents of the 865 villages on the border would be given free admission to aided courses while they would be able to complete unaided courses by paying only 75% of the fees.

Some members of the Maharashtra Ekikaran Samiti also attended the meeting in Belagavi. Marathi activist Datta Ugade organised the meeting in Belagavi on Tuesday. Writer Tukaram More participated in the meeting in Bhalki on Thursday. A similar meeting is planned in Nippani on August 4.

'Only a front'

Ashok Chandaragi, convener of Kannada organisations in Belagavi, suspected that this was a strategy by the Maharashtra government and that the university was only a front. This Maharashtra government's move was against the Karnataka government sanctioning ₹100 crore to the Karnataka Maratha Development Corporation, he said. "We had all thought that the new Shiv Sena government in Maharashtra would not venture into the border issue as it is sharing power with the BJP. But we are disappointed," Mr. Chandaragi said.

"All this is happening as the Karnataka government is neglecting border areas. It has failed in its promise of shifting the border area commission authority office to the Suvarna Soudha. Schools in the border areas do not have teachers and other facilities. We have been raising this issue continuously, but in vain," Deepak Gudenatti, Karnataka Rakshana Vedike leader, said.

Kannada Development Authority chairman T.S. Nagabharana has urged Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai to take a serious view of the situation. "We suspect that Maharashtra will introduce such schemes and then use them as evidence in their case in the Supreme Court seeking merger of Marathi-speaking areas with Maharashtra," he said.

C. Somashekar, chairman of the Karnataka Border Area Development Authority, said he would meet Mr. Bommai and urge him to speak to the Maharashtra government and ask them to stop the scheme in view of the good relations between the two States.

'Have a counter scheme'

"If the State government were to oppose the offer of free education by Shivaji University, let it offer similar schemes to the border area residents in Karnataka," suggested M.G. Mule, chairman of the Karnataka Maratha Development Corporation.

"I cannot say I am in favour of the Shivaji University's scheme. But opposing it would not be wise," he said. He, however, was opposed to any attempt by the MES or any other organisation to politicise the issue.

However, according to him, the plans of the university would not succeed as most Marathi-speaking parents prefer to send their wards to colleges and universities in Karnataka. The earlier trend was to go to Marathawada or Mumbai or Pune. It has changed now. Nowadays, parents send their children to Mangaluru, Bengaluru or Dharwad for higher studies, he said.

State reports 1,889 new COVID-19 cases, three deaths

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Karnataka on Thursday recorded 1,889 new COVID-19 cases, taking the total number to 40,01,655.

With this, the day's Test Positivity Rate (TPR) stood at 5.95% and the weekly TPR touched 5.54%. Of the new cases, 1,475 have been reported from Bengaluru Urban alone.

With three deaths, the State's toll touched 40,097. Besides these, the death of 42 patients due to non-COVID-19 reasons has also been recorded so far.

Recoveries

As many as 1,587 people were discharged on Thursday, taking the total recoveries to 39,52,381. Active cases stood at 9,135.

As many as 31,706 tests were conducted in the last 24 hours, including 26,110 RT-PCR tests. With this, the total number of tests rose to 6,77,03,537.

Leopard captured in Mysuru BEML complex

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MYSURU

A leopard which was sighted in the BEML complex on the outskirts of the city was trapped and later released into the forest on Thursday.

The Forest Department was informed of the presence of the spotted cat by the factory personnel following which a cage was placed to trap it. Kamala Karikalan, Deputy Conservator of Forests (Territorial), said the leopard was a male aged around 6 years and was sighted in the factory complex at Koorgalli Industrial Area. BEML has a vast complex and a large swathe of land beyond the production units is covered by thick vegetation and woods. Leopards have been frequently sighted in this area and captured and released into the forests in the past but the space tends to be occupied by other leopards that find a safe sanctuary.

Ms. Karikalan said the leopard was examined by the veterinarians and found to be in good health, following which it was transported and released into the wild in the BRT Tiger Reserve in Chamarajanagar district.

The department periodically receives information from local residents in and around Mysuru whenever leopards are sighted in human landscape. While some of them get trapped in the cages, others prove to be elusive. The leopard in the BEML complex is suspected to have made the woods its territory as there was relatively less disturbance. The authorities placed the cage camouflaging it with vegetation and the big cat is suspected to have walked into the trap in the early hours of Thursday.

TAMILNADU MEDICAL SERVICES CORPORATION LTD
No.417, Pantheon Road, Egmore, Chennai - 600008
Phone: 28191890 / 28190259; Fax: 044 - 28190636

Sl No	Online Tender / Rate Contract (RC) No / item with qty / Document Cost	Sale Period	Pre bid	Last date Submission	Opening
1	E842/ PIN/NHM/TNMSC/ENGG/2022, Dt: 26.07.2022 Power Injector (15) – Rs. 5,725/-	29.07.2022 to 29.08.2022	11.08.2022 11.00 AM	30.08.2022 11.00 AM	30.08.2022 12.00 Noon
2	E843/DIAT/NHM/TNMSC/ENGG/2022, Dt: 26.07.2022 Electro surgery with vessel sealing (2) – Rs. 3,435/-	29.07.2022 to 16.08.2022	05.08.2022 11.00 AM	17.08.2022 11.00 AM	17.08.2022 12.00 Noon
3	E844/OTL/NHM/TNMSC/ENGG/2022, Dt: 26.07.2022 Ceiling OT Light (6) – Rs. 3,435/-	29.07.2022 to 16.08.2022	05.08.2022 12.00 Noon	17.08.2022 11.00 AM	17.08.2022 12.00 Noon
4	E845/OTT/NHM/TNMSC/ENGG/2022, Dt: 26.07.2022 Electro Hydraulic OT table for advanced Urology Surgeries (2), Electro Hydraulic OT table (4) – Rs. 5,725/-	01.08.2022 to 16.08.2022	08.08.2022 11.00 AM	17.08.2022 11.00 AM	17.08.2022 12.00 Noon
5	E846/ANL/RC/TNMSC/ENGG/2022,Dt:26.07.2022 Semi-Automated Coagulation Analyzer (20) Rs. 3,435/-	01.08.2022 to 16.08.2022	08.08.2022 12.00 Noon	17.08.2022 11.00 AM	17.08.2022 12.00 Noon

For details visit www.tenders.tn.gov.in and TNMSC website www.tnmsc.tn.gov.in
DIPR/3570/Tender/2022
General Manager (Equipment)

TAMIL NADU LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
IV Floor, Integrated Office Complex for Animal Husbandry & Fisheries Department,
571, Anna Salai, Saidapet Veterinary Polyclinic Campus,
Nandanam P.O., Chennai - 35. e-mail : tnlda2016@gmail.com
TENDER NOTICE
Sealed tenders are invited for the following items under "Two Cover System"

Tender No.	Name of the Unit
TNLDA/2022/11	Establishing Small Ruminant Slaughter Line at AIIRLIVAS, Salem.
TNLDA/2022/12	Establishing Chicken Slaughter Line at AIIRLIVAS, Salem.
TNLDA/2022/13	Establishing Pig Slaughter Line at AIIRLIVAS, Salem.
TNLDA/2022/14	Supply, delivery, installation and Commissioning of Meat Processing Equipment for Chicken/Mutton/Chevon products at AIIRLIVAS, Salem.
TNLDA/2022/15	Supply, delivery, installation and Commissioning of **Boiler** for Common Utility Facility of Meat Processing Complex at AIIRLIVAS, Salem.
TNLDA/2022/16	Supply, delivery, installation and Commissioning of **Water Softener Plant 3 Ton per day** for Common Utility Facility of Meat Processing Complex at AIIRLIVAS, Salem.
TNLDA/2022/17	Supply, delivery, installation and Commissioning of **ETP Modular 50 KL Plant** for Common Utility Facility of Meat Processing Complex at AIIRLIVAS, Salem.
TNLDA/2022/18	Supply, delivery, installation and Commissioning of **Refrigeration plant-75 tonnes capacity** for Common Utility Facility of Meat Processing Complex at AIIRLIVAS, Salem.
TNLDA/2022/19	Establishing Automatic Feeding and Watering System for native chicken at AIIRLIVAS, Salem.

Pre-Bid meeting on 11.08.2022 - 11.30 AM
Individual tender documents with full details can be downloaded free of cost from www.tenders.tn.gov.in upto 29.08.2022, 5.00 PM
Last date for submission of tenders: 30.08.2022, 11.00 AM
Corrigendum/Addendum to this publication, if any, would appear only on the above website
DIPR/ 3566 /TENDER/2022
Chief Executive Officer.

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT, our Client is intending to buy the property described in the Schedule hereunder.
It is brought to the notice of the general public that, our clients have negotiated and decided to purchase the Schedule Property from the present owners. All persons having any claim against or to the Schedule Property or any part thereof by way of inheritance, mortgage, sale, conveyance, MOU, Agreement to Sell, G.P.A, transfer, lease deed, tenancy, license, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, gift, exchange, possession, adverse possession or otherwise howsoever are hereby required to submit the same in writing along with documentary proof to the undersigned at their office as shown below within 7 days from the date of publication hereof, failing which our client shall proceed without any reference to such claim and the same, if any, will be considered as waived.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All that piece and parcel of the undeveloped Residentially Converted Land bearing Sy. No. 180 measuring to an extent of 3 Acres 38 Guntas (duly converted vide Official Memorandum bearing No. ALN:(A)(S)SR:37/2005-06 dated 07/03/2009, issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore and Revised Official Memorandum bearing No. ALN:(A)(S) SR:37/2005-06 dated 23/06/2014, issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore) situated at Neriga Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District, and bounded on the:
East By : Land bearing Sy.No. 108,
West By : Land bearing Sy.No. 108,
North By : Land bearing Sy.No.181 & 179,
South By : Land bearing Sy.No. 108.
Dated this 29th day of July 2022 at Bangalore
M/S. LEGAL NEXUS,
ADVOCATES & CONSULTANTS,
No.428, First Floor, 25th Cross, 24th Main HSR Layout, Sector 2, Bangalore-560102.
Phone: 080-65555814
Mobile: 9945688974; 9164150690.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Our client Sri.Balaji.G is intending to purchase the Property bearing Site No.91, Katha No.592/1, Property No.192-28-91, from the vendor Sri.Sankar more fully described in the schedule hereunder. Any person/s having any claims of whatsoever nature, in respect of the Schedule Property or any portion thereof, may write to the undersigned within 15 (Fifteen) days of issuance of this notice with documentary evidence on which basis they are making their claims in respect of the Schedule Property or any part thereof in any manner whatsoever, failing which our client shall move to get registered sale deed in his name on the basis that there are no claims of whatsoever nature in respect of the Schedule Property.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY
ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF the Property bearing Site No.91, Katha No.592/1, Property No.192-28-91, situated at 2nd Cross, 1st Main, Gururaja Layout, Doddanekkundi Village, KR Puram Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk, presently property comes under jurisdiction of BBMP, Bengaluru, measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 30 feet, totally measuring 1200 Sq.Ft. along with building and Bounded on;
EAST BY : Road; WEST BY : Site No.101; NORTH BY : Site No.92; SOUTH BY : Site No.90
BENGALURU
Dated: 26/07/2022
SRI NANDI ASSOCIATES
ADVOCATES
Rep. by its SIDDANANJAPPA. M.N.
No.1904, Prashanth Nagar Main Road, 3rd Cross, Bengaluru-560079
Ph. No. 9731652398

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(RAICHUR THERMAL POWER STATION)
CIN : U85110KA1970SGC001919
No.: KPCL/2022-23/PS/WORK_INDENT/12645 Date: 16.07.2022
TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-procurement Portal only)
KPCL invites bids through GoK e-procurement portal: www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in from qualified and experienced agencies satisfying the pre-qualification requirements for availing the service of Providing Canteen Catering Services at RTPS Premises & Shaktinagar Colony. Contract period: 1 Year. EMD: Rs. 2,89,500/-. Last Date for submission of bids: 16.08.2022. Further details can be had from the office of the Deputy General Manager(HRD), RTPS, KPCL, Shaktinagar – 584170, Raichur District. Phone. No. : 08532-246129, Mobile No.: 99868 50765.

MANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka undertaking)
Corporate Office, "MESCOM BHAVANA", Bejai, Mangaluru - 575 004
Ph: 0824-2885795 CIN: U40109 KA 2002 SGC 030425
No: MESCOM/SEE(P)/EE(W)/ 318 Date: 22.07.2022
TENDER NOTIFICATION (E-Procurement Mode Only)
MESCOM invites tender for Establishing 2x8 MVA, 33/11/KV Sub-Station at Shirthady by drawing 33kV Single Circuit line from 110 /11KV Moodabidre MUSS for a distance of 15.0 kms in Moodabidre Sub-division of Kavoor division on Partial Turnkey Basis vide bid enquiry no. MESCOM/ 2022-23/ SS/ WORK_INDENT1817.
The interested eligible bidders may log on to : www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in on or after 01.08.2022.
Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Ele.) (Proc.), Corporate Office
For Power Related Complaints & Assistance Call Toll Free Number 1912

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, DIVISION, CHITRADURGA
No.EE:PWD:CTA:AE-1:Tender-38:2022-23:1504 Dated:- 26.07.2022
E-TENDER NOTIFICATION
Tenders are invited from registered Contractors in KPWD for the following work through e-Procurement Portal as per standard tender documents rules.
Two cover System :- Head of Account: 5054-04-337-0-01-422 SCP:- (1) Package : 1) Construction of CC Road and Drain at Parashurampura village Jayanna Nagara S.C. Colony in Challakere Taluk and 2) Construction of CC Road and Drain at Parashurampura S.C. Colony in Challakere Taluk (W.I. 152793). Estimate Cost Rs. in Lakhs:- 100.00
Tenders dates are as mentioned below: (1) Late Date & time for Tender Queries/ Clarifications 10-08-2022 Time: 17.30 (2) Last Date & time for receipt of tenders 11-08-2022 Time: 16.00 (3) Date & time for opening of Technical Bid 12-08-2022 Time: 16.01 (4) Date & time for opening of Financial Bid 16-08-2022 Time: 11.00 Further details can be obtained from this office and H.P. Company helpline Numbers 080-25501216 and 080-25501227.
DIPR/CTA/MCA/404/2022-23 Sd/- Executive Engineer, PWD, Chitradurga.

'Chess event ads must feature President, PM'

Madurai Bench of Madras High Court issues directive to Tamil Nadu government

STAFF REPORTER
MADURAI

"It is indeed a proud moment to cherish that the 44th Chess Olympiad organised by FIDE is being held in Chennai, India," observed the Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court, while directing the State government to ensure that the photographs of the President and the Prime Minister are published in all advertisements (print/electronic media) related to the Chess Olympiad.

A Division Bench of Chief Justice Munishwar Nath Bhandari and Justice S. Ananthi said the State government should ensure that whenever any international event is hosted in the State, the directive issued by the Supreme Court is followed by including the names of the dignitaries.

The petitioner noted that only the CM's photos were used in the advertisements.

The court was hearing a petition filed by R. Rajesh Kumar of Sivaganga district, who said only the Chief Minister's photograph was used in the advertisements/promotional material.

He said the photographs of the Prime Minister and the President should have also been published for the international event in Chennai.

The advertisements were published using public money, and the authorities should apologise to the public for not having complied with the judgment of the apex court by not having published the photographs of the President and the Prime Minister.

"We would like to say that the interest of the nation should be of paramount importance in the mind of every citizen. International events depict the image of the country in the international fora. It not only shows the development of the country, but its capability to organise an international event at such short notice. Keeping the aforesaid object in mind, every government should work, including the State Government," the judges said.

"When our country is hosting such an international event, it is the bounden duty of one and all to ensure that such a function is organised efficiently and we leave an indelible mark at the international level. Thus, the image of the nation should be of foremost concern to everyone and such representation, obviously, would be under the aegis of the President and Prime Minister of India, apart from the Chief Minister of the State where the tournament is hosted," the judges said.

The authorities were required to remain vigilant in implementing the directions of the apex court while publishing advertisements to promote the event, the judges said.

During the course of the hearing, the State government submitted that when the groundwork for organising and advertising the event was under way, the Presidential election had not yet concluded. Therefore, the photograph of the President was not published. With regard to the non-publication of the photograph of the Prime Minister, the State submitted that the consent to inaugurate the function was given on July 22. Pursuant to the consent, the photographs of the Prime Minister were being published.

The court said these reasons could not be accepted. The advertisements were issued without the photograph of the President even after the result of the Presidential election was declared. The photograph of the Prime Minister was required to be published even if he could not have inaugurated the event. What had to be noted here was that in spite of the Parliament session, the Prime Minister decided to inaugurate the function, considering the significance of the event at the international level, it said.

The judges said that considering the national interest and the directives of the apex court, it should be ensured that irrespective of whether dignitaries like the President or the Prime Minister accept the invitation for an international event, the advertisements should contain their photographs, inasmuch as they represent the country at the international level.

Considering that a prayer had been made to direct the State government to apologise to the public, inasmuch as public money was utilised for advertising the international event, the judges observed, "We find realisation of the mistake by the organisers and the best way to seek apology is to respect the sentiments of the public and make the international event a grand success by leaving an indelible mark of our nation at the international level."

The court made it clear that the district administrations should ensure that no damage or destruction is caused to any of the advertisements containing the photographs of the President and the Prime Minister.

WEATHER WATCH

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY

TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 16.00 HRS)

Forecast for Friday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Jammu & Kashmir, Muzaffarabad, Himachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Sikkim, Bihar, coastal Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Kerala. Thunderstorm with lightning likely at isolated places over West Bengal, Jharkhand, Odisha, Telangana, central Maharashtra, Konkan & Goa, Yanam, Karaikal and Mahe

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	4	33.2	27.3	Kozhikode	0.2	31.8	24.8
Ahmedabad	29	32.6	25.0	Kurnool	–	35.5	25.3
Aizawl	–	–	22.3	Lucknow	1	31.0	26.3
Allahabad	–	32.0	27.2	Madurai	63	33.8	23.1
Bengaluru	3	30.2	20.9	Mangaluru	7.5	30.0	23.5
Bhopal	1	30.6	24.0	Mumbai	19	31.3	24.2
Bhubaneswar	–	35.1	25.6	Mysuru	54	31.0	21.3
Chandigarh	2	33.4	27.3	New Delhi	–	31.2	26.7
Chennai	–	33.4	27.3	Patna	2.4	35.1	26.4
Coimbatore	–	34.8	22.6	Port Blair	–	31.9	26.6
Dehradun	1	32.3	24.2	Puducherry	–	32.6	25.4
Gangtok	0.1	22.3	17.4	Pune	51.5	31.3	20.7
Goa	0.4	30.5	24.9	Raipur	–	33.7	26.5
Guwahati	0.7	33.9	26.7	Ranchi	–	33.2	25.0
Hubballi	–	29.0	22.0	Shillong	4	24.3	16.9
Hyderabad	0.3	32.2	23.6	Shimla	56	25.5	19.8
Imphal	–	31.0	22.0	Srinagar	89	–	19.0
Jaipur	19	30.6	24.0	Thiruvananthapuram	3	31.4	23.2
Kochi	13	29.8	24.0	Tiruchi	–	35.1	25.0
Kohima	5	24.0	16.8	Vijayawada	–	34.4	26.0
Kolkata	23	35.7	26.9	Visakhapatnam	–	34.0	27.2

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing — **Yesterday**

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	23	12	11	56	78	
Bengaluru	3	17	18	88	96	
Chennai	13	21	51	29	43	
Delhi	12	41	41	83	94	
Hyderabad	5	15	38	85	90	
Kolkata	27	16	21	52	70	
Lucknow	8	65	56	44	60	
Mumbai	2	10	22	169	122	
Pune	–	42	95	–	–	–
Visakhapatnam	15	36	24	43	85	

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Kochi, Kerala recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 143 indicating a moderate level of pollution. In contrast, Davanagere, Karnataka recorded a healthy AQI score of 17

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

IN BRIEF

₹12.51 cr. for 4,170 mixed marriage couples

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Kerala government has sanctioned ₹12.51 crore as pending financial assistance to 4,170 'mixed marriage' [*mishra vivaham*] couples till March 2021. The Social Justice department gives a one-time financial assistance of ₹30,000 to couples with inter-caste or inter-faith marriages (except those from the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) who face financial difficulties. The assistance is handed over to the local self-governments for distribution to the beneficiaries.

A.P. Minister 'insists' on privileged darshan

He seeks pass for 125-member group

G.P. SHUKLA
TIRUMALA

Andhra Pradesh Minister for Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development and Fisheries Seediri Appala Raju on Thursday kicked up a controversy by demanding privileged darshan for his entire entourage comprising more than 125 members.

Mr. Raju came under severe criticism for demanding *darshan* tickets of such astronomical number at a time when the temple town still reeled under the impact of heavy crowds and the pilgrims forced to spend protracted waiting hours in the darshan lines.

Seediri Appala Raju

Though the TTD authorities tried to explain him that it would hurt the sentiments of the devout, Mr. Raju stuck to his demand. Left with no other option, the officials heeded to his request and sanctioned him the desired number of darshan tickets.

Navy takes delivery of aircraft carrier INS Vikrant

Vessel to be inducted into Navy in the third week of August

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOCHI

The Cochin Shipyard Ltd (CSL) delivered the first Indigenous Aircraft Carrier (IAC-I) to the Indian Navy here on Thursday.

The acceptance form was signed by Madhu S. Nair, Chairman and Managing Director of the shipyard, and Commodore Vidhyadhar Harke, Commanding Officer (Designate) of the vessel. The 262-metre-long vessel, which can attain a speed of up to 28 knots, is scheduled to be inducted into the Navy in the third week of August by PM Narendra Modi.

Indian Navy personnel while taking delivery of IAC Vikrant from the Cochin Shipyard Limited in Kochi on Thursday. • PTI

The Indigenous Aircraft Carrier is the largest warship to be built in India, having a deep displacement of approximately 45,000 tonnes.

The vessel can accommodate an assortment of 30 fixed-wing and rotary aircraft in addition to Advanced Light Helicopters (ALH) and Light Combat Aircraft (LCA-Navy).

Man hides in washroom of store overnight for a loot

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

When the staff of an electronic appliances showroom shut shop, little did they know that they had left behind someone in the store – a thief.

A 27-year-old man hid in the women's restroom for the whole night to steal seven expensive mobile phones from the showroom in J.P. Nagar to gift one of them to his girlfriend. However, the accused Abdul Munaf, was tracked down by the police with the IMEI number after he started to use one of the stolen mobile phones.

According to the police, Munaf, a native of Purnea in Bihar, was working in a restaurant in BTM Layout. The accused had met a girl from Mangaluru on Instagram and wanted to impress her with expensive gift. He zeroed in on the showroom and surfed the internet on how to steal mobile phones from showroom and devised a plan. As per the plan, on Wednesday, he visited the showroom in J.P. Nagar 2nd Phase posing as a customer and hid in the women's restroom. When the showroom was shut down and the staff went home, he ventured into the ground floor, took seven expensive mobile phones, and returned to the washroom. He spent the whole night there and the next day, when the showroom was opened and the staff were busy, he took the lift to the basement and walked out.

While walking, he accidentally dropped one of the stolen phones, which was later recovered by the staff. The incident came to light when the staff checked the CCTV footage to find the man coming out of the washroom and grabbing expensive mobile phones.

The value of the stolen mobile phones was ₹5 lakh.

Solemn remembrance

Attaining peace: Scenes from the *bali tarpan* ritual at the Nagampadom Mahadeva temple in Kottayam, Kerala on Thursday. As per Hindu beliefs, offering obeisance (*bali*) to the departed souls helps them attain liberation. • VISHNU PRATHAP

'Bank gave money for woman's treatment'

Kerala Minister terms protest political

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
THRISSUR

Kerala Higher Education Minister R. Bindu has come under fire for her comments justifying the Karuvannur Service Cooperative Bank amid the outrage over the death of a woman who was allegedly refused money for treatment from her deposit.

Addressing mediapersons at the Thrissur Press Club on Thursday, the Minister claimed that the bank had given money for the treatment of Philomina, 70, wife of Devassy of Mapranam, who died on Wednesday, following infection in brain.

The Minister also criticised the protest carrying the body of the woman in front of the bank and said, "It was disrespectful to the body of the woman and the protest was politically motivated."

R. Bindu

Dr. Bindu said she had intervened in the issue of Karuvannur bank even before and the government was taking all measures to protect the interest of depositors with the support of Kerala Bank. "There was an initiative to form a consortium to protect the bank. But the Reserve Bank of India did not approve the effort as some people with vested interests sent letters to the RBI against it," she alleged.

Gusto for tea remains on top even at 90

Nonagenarian bachelor in Kerala leads a life dedicated to mixing, drinking tea

ABDUL LATHEEF NAHA
PALAKKAD

At 90, Madathil Veettil Narayanan Nair still mixes tea with the same verve and finesse as he had as a young lad when India achieved Independence in 1947. He has been running a traditional tea shop for the past 75 years on the banks of the Bharathapuzha at Painkulam, near Shoranur in Kerala.

Mr. Nair says he forgot to marry because of his passion for mixing tea. He drinks about two dozen half cups of tea every day. Even at 90, he runs the shop mainly for him to drink tea.

"I serve tea and snacks to whoever comes to my shop. Even if none comes, I will run it because I want to drink tea," said Mr. Nair with a chuckle.

Master's brew: Narayanan Nair mixing tea at his traditional tea shop at Painkulam in Kerala. • PRASAD K. SHORANUR

A lot of local people in and around Painkulam are addicted to Mr. Nair's tea. He wakes up at 4 a.m., opens the soot-smeared shop before sunrise, and offers hot, zesty tea made of his own cow's milk.

Living with his sister Madhavikutty, Mr. Nair gets the help of her children in making eatables like *idli*, *dosa*, *puttu* and *pakoda*. Although a tea costs ₹10 at most places in Kerala, Mr. Nair does not impose any fixed charge. "I accept whatever people give. It can be anything between ₹5 and ₹10," he said.

Mr. Nair ran his own shop at neighbouring places like Thozhupadam and Vazhalikkavu before settling with the current shop next to his house on the Canal Road in 1995.

He mixes tea in the traditional way and serves in the traditional eight ounce glass tumbler. He still uses firewood, which he says would give the classy taste of tea. "I cannot live without drinking tea. And I want to run this shop until I die," he said.

Mr. Nair remembers selling tea and snacks for half an anna (equivalent to three paise). Currency and its value have changed over the decades, but not the quality of the tea Mr. Nair mixes.

New addition to Kerala's damselfly list

Anamalai Reed-tail first spotted at Peechi Wildlife Sanctuary in Thrissur district

SARATH BABU GEORGE
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The odonates' checklist of Kerala has now grown to 182 with the discovery of a new damselfly species from the Western Ghats in the Peechi Wildlife Sanctuary in Thrissur district.

Three entomologists, Kalesh Sadasivan, Vinayan P. Nair and Abraham Samuel of the Travancore Nature History Society (TNHS), have identified the species, Anamalai Reed-tail (scientific name: *Protosticta anamalaica* Sadasivan, Nair and Samuel, 2022). The discovery has been published in the *Journal of Threatened Taxa*.

The tiny insect was first spotted at the Ponmudi hills in the Peechi Wildlife Sanctuary that forms part of the Nelliampathies-Anamalais sub-unit of the Munnar landscape in November 2021. The group later spotted the same species from Mankulam, Malakkappara and Edamalakudy. This is the second species belonging to the damselfly genus *Protosticta* to be described by the TNHS researchers after Ponmudi Reed-tail (*Protosticta ponmudiensis*) that was described in 2015 from Ponmudi hills in Thiruvananthapuram.

Hidden wonder: Anamalai Reed-tail, or *Protosticta anamalaica*. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

According to Dr. Sadasivan, the genus *Protosticta Sels*, 1885, consists of slender-built damselflies commonly known as Reed-tails or Shadow-damsels. They inhabit hill streams in tropical, subtropical and temperate jungles of the Indian subcontinent and south-eastern Asia. In India, they are distributed in the Western Ghats and north-eastern region towards Myanmar.

The genus was described from Sulawesi in Indonesia. The genus has 53 extant species distributed from Pakistan, through the Indian subcontinent to Indo-China and south-eastern Asian islands. There are 15 species of *Protosticta* in India, among which 12 inhabit the Western Ghats. The addition of *Protosticta anamalaica* to the checklist raises the odonata species diversity of the Western Ghats to 208 with 81 endemics. Kerala has 182 species with 69 endemics.

Narrow view

SC verdict on PMLA fails to protect personal liberty from draconian provisions

The Supreme Court's verdict upholding all the controversial provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) falls short of judicial standards of reviewing legislative action. Undergirding every aspect of its analysis is a belief that India's commitment to the international community on strengthening the domestic legal framework for combating money-laundering is so inviolable that possible violation of fundamental rights can be downplayed. The judgment repeatedly invokes the "international commitment" behind Parliament's enactment of the law to curb the menace of laundering of proceeds of crime which, it underscores, has transnational consequences such as adversely impacting financial systems and even the sovereignty of countries. There is, no doubt, widespread international concern over the malefic effects of organised crime fuelling international narcotics trade and terrorism. Much of these activities are funded by illicit money generated from crime, laundered to look legitimate and funnelled into the financial bloodstream of global and domestic economies. A stringent framework, with apposite departures from the routine standards of criminal procedure, may be justified in some circumstances. However, experience suggests that money-laundering in the Indian context is linked or is seen as a byproduct of a host of both grave and routine offences that are appended to the Act as a schedule. These 'scheduled' or 'predicate' offences ought to be ideally limited to grave offences such as terrorism, narcotics smuggling, corruption and serious forms of evasion of taxes and duties. However, in practice, the list contains offences such as fraud, forgery, cheating, kidnapping and even copyright and trademark infringements. The Enforcement Directorate has also been manifestly selective in opening money-laundering probes, rendering any citizen vulnerable to search, seizure, and arrest at the whim of the executive.

It is disappointing that the Court did not find the provision for forcing one summoned by the ED to disclose and submit documents, and then sign it under pain of prosecution, as violating the constitutional bar on testimonial compulsion. Nor was it impressed by the argument that the search and seizure provisions lack judicial oversight and are exclusively driven by ED officers. Provisions that allow prosecution for money-laundering even without the scheduled offence being established and amendments deleting safeguards have passed muster with the Bench, solely on the ground that these were for removing lacunae pointed out by international evaluators of the efficacy of the law. Save for an odd comment that the Special Court could examine the documents to decide on continuing detention, there is nothing in the judgment that will attenuate the law's rigours. It rejects the plea to treat ED officers who record statements as police officers, thus protecting their evidentiary admissibility. At a time when the ED is selectively targeting regime opponents, the verdict is bound to be remembered for its failure to protect personal liberty from executive excess.

Much needed bailout

BSNL needs state help to fulfil its social role in rural areas and in disaster relief

The Cabinet's decision to provide a ₹1.64 lakh crore lifeline to Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. comes as a badly needed shot in the arm for the loss-making public sector telecommunications provider. Almost three years since the Government last announced a plan to revive BSNL and its smaller peer Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. (MTNL), the Government seems to have belatedly realised that any further delay in adequately funding the main public sector telco in the "strategic sector" risks compromising its goals of bridging the digital divide and ensuring the evolution of an inclusive knowledge society. Nothing highlights the urgency of providing the crucial capital support to address the multiple financial, technology and spectrum needs confronting the erstwhile monopoly provider of telecommunication services than the accelerated erosion in its subscriber base in the 31 months since October 2019, when the earlier revival plan was approved. For a company that held the commanding heights of landline (wireline) connections until the opening up of the sector to private players and entry of wireless telephony in the 1990s, BSNL's share of wireline connections fell sharply to 28.7% at the end of May 2022, from 46.6% in October 2019. On the significantly larger wireless front, BSNL's already small share slid marginally to 9.85% as on May 31, with the number of subscribers declining by 45 lakh to 11.28 crore. The only consolation was that the number of its rural wireless subscribers shrank by just 11.4 lakh.

The intervening period has also seen BSNL shrink its workforce, making it a far lighter ship and better placed to navigate the shoals of a competitive, and technologically rapidly evolving marketplace. From an employee base that exceeded 1.65 lakh, and consumed about 75% of its total income, the public sector enterprise had whittled down the number of regular employees on its rolls to 64,536 as on March 31, 2021, with the proportion of employee benefit expenses to total income more than halving to 36%. BSNL's net loss also narrowed appreciably to ₹7,453 crore at the end of the fiscal year ended March 2021. Acknowledging the public sector telco's "crucial role in expansion of telecom services in rural areas, development of indigenous technology and disaster relief", the Government has earmarked welcome funds for each of the chosen focus areas including allocating spectrum, helping the provider upgrade its services and critically de-stressing its balance sheet.

A growing disengagement with Gandhi's ideas

The lionising of Savarkar and the diminution of the Mahatma endanger the essence of India's future

SEEMA CHISHTI

The June 2022 issue of *Antim Jan*, a magazine published by the Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti (GSDS), stood out for a reason. The issue was dominated by Vinayak Savarkar, a central figure in Mahatma Gandhi's assassination trial. Savarkar was let off for lack of adequate corroborative evidence, but the Jivanlal Kapur Commission set up in the 1960s concluded: "All these facts taken together were destructive of any theory other than the conspiracy to murder by Savarkar and his group". No further inquiries about Savarkar's role were made as he was dead by then.

In an article in *Antim Jan*, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Vijay Goel, the vice-chairman of GSDS, tries to place Savarkar on the same footing as Mahatma Gandhi – "Savarkar's place in history and stature in freedom struggle is no less than that of Gandhi." The chairman of the GSDS is Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Prime Ministers have always chaired the GSDS ever since it was set up in 1984.

The point is not to express outrage but to recognise that people (beyond those who call themselves Gandhian), need to be concerned about this odious undertaking, which clearly has top official sanction. The lionising of Savarkar and the diminution of Gandhiji have implications in terms of the essence of India's future.

Continual appreciation of Gandhiji's assassin Godse by public representatives espousing Hindutva ideology has grown much louder in the past four years; at least two Members of Parliament from the ruling party are examples of this. Popular hatemongers abuse Gandhiji and praise Godse in the media without any fear of the consequences. This recrafting of our past is one of a piece, with Hindutva's attempts to reshape the narrative on the Gujarat riots in 2002. The recent arrests of civil rights activist Teesta Setalvad and former Gujarat Director-General of Police R.B. Sreekumar, along with a scrubbing of textbooks to eliminate references to the violence of 2002, are a part of this effort. The control over new networks of communication (social media and television channels) and the older more formal ones (school textbooks, the Archaeological Survey of India and a majority of newspapers) facilitate this tampering with memory and knowledge.

Gandhi power

The non-violence of Gandhiji was a powerful idea and a weapon, and not cowardice as Savarkar and the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) caricatured it. In a prayer meeting in September 1947, Gandhiji invoked the epic, the Mahabharata, in ways starkly different from an invocation as a battle cry. He said; "It is said that in the Mahabharata period the Pandavas used to stay in this Purana Qila." Just like the Pandavas, said Gandhiji, the Muslims "are under your protection, and under my protection". His invocation of the *Shanti Parva* – part of the Mahabharata that involves a deep rumination on the futility of conflict after the war – has Bhishma teaching Yudhishtra the *raj dharm* of nurturing people, holding them together and practising non-violence.

In March 1931, while moving the Resolution on Fundamental Rights at the open session of the Congress in Karachi, Gandhiji emphasised religious tolerance and religious neutrality of the state. Gandhiji's message was not about Hindu reform but of an interpretation of high ideals as the soul of Hinduism itself, putting it on a higher pedestal – not as something bound by an adversarial relationship to any Abrahamic faith or hostage to hate.

This was directly at odds with how M.S. Golwalkar, the RSS or Savarkar interpreted Hinduism. Golwalkar was explicit in his appreciation of the way Germany of the 1930s handled the "minorities problem": the need to get them to "either merge themselves in the national race and adopt its culture, or to live at its mercy so long as the national race may allow them to do so and to quit the country at the sweet will of the national race". Shruti Kapila in *Violent Fraternity: Indian Political Thought in the Global Age* (2021) recounts that Savarkar's idea of the virile and masculine and his desire to claim India's history and space, saw the nation as a battleground which makes violence the only desirable means to meet supremacist goals.

K. SHIVAJI RAO

A discourse which seeks to diminish Gandhiji will have grievous consequences on the diversity among Indians, and all those who share the Indian dream because it offers them rights, liberation and space. If the nation is now only about one faith and a permanent line between two identities that Hindutva politics obsesses about (Hindu and Muslim) then the entire larger India project would be in jeopardy, even if that is not visible just yet. This was a framing Gandhiji opposed vehemently and paid for, with his life. Now, to take down Gandhiji and to cut out vital parts of India's plural past from its memory so everything can then be framed to cast the Hindu as victim and the Muslim as the oppressor, will have implications.

Real world consequences

India's education system will be immediately impacted by this twisted alt-history. The Indian education system, with all its drawbacks, has led to Indian students being able to compete at the highest levels globally. But what will be the status in another few years if social science is about skipping empires in India between the 12th century and the 17th century? Or the learning of ancient India is without its many cultures, religions and contradictions, on rich debates that still leave a mark? It will be akin to the Islamisation of Pakistani textbooks, with social studies becoming 'Islamic studies', and where vast and rich aspects of the subcontinent were left untaught. With over 60% of India younger than 26 years of age, ideas drilled down now will stay for the lifespan of this now young population. In short, for a long time.

But the more serious consequences of trying to arrange India's reality as a nation in the Golwalkar-Savarkar framework concern the very nature of India itself. The Golwalkar-Savarkar framework is, by self-admission, rooted in a now discredited and failed idea of states in the European imagination of the 1930s. This can only widen social distances. Communal incidents are on the rise. Even the pandemic year saw 857 communal incidents, which was a 96% leap in incidents from 2019. India was never incident-free, but top leaders explicitly called for harmony and peace. Today, what we hear loudly instead is a complete silence from the top leader. The estrangement between Hindus and non-Hindus is sought to be widened by everyday acts, and differential treatment accorded by those in power to the place of religion in public life, whether it is namaz, hijab or acts by groups aligned with the ruling ideology or by ruling party leaders when nationalism is equated to Hinduism.

Disallowing solidarities

The majority of Indians remain subjugated and in need of assistance in order to bridge and make up for inequities and injustices that are products of history and also of the recent past. Even a constitution could not wish away structural rigidities sanctioned by scriptures. The attempt is to use Savarkar and push Islamophobia such that there is only one understanding of the 'majority'. The axis of this subjugated majority in India is not a function of faith. The majority, or Bahujan, including Hindus, minorities, tribals and Dalits, comprise millions of the poor, the marginalised, the deprived and who are evaluated by several metrics. The attempt in the Hindutva world to cement them in a permanent box by faith is to not allow India's real oppressed majority to form solidarities.

Data on economic inequality (on the socially deprived and the Sachar Committee Report on Muslims), have clearly established the extent of backwardness and oppression suffered by a majority of our countrymen and women. A push towards a worldview promoting deeply divisive ideas from the days of the two-nation theory ensures that real issues – that modern politics deals with and answers – are not posed at all. This means that there is a setback for not just Muslims but also India as a whole.

Weakening social justice

Taking away the soul of Gandhiji and replacing it with Savarkar has implications on the future of the most downtrodden – Dalits. There can be no justice to India's most grievous victims over millennia if the misdeeds of the millennia are not acknowledged and a move made to "annihilate" the system that fostered egregious social and economic oppression. The systematic bid to make it 'Hindu versus Muslim' has a sinister subproject of burying the call for social justice which via electoral politics, has resulted in significant social change especially in north and western India.

Gandhiji's glasses have been extricated to prop the Swachhta Abhiyan, as a call to cleanliness. But without his empowering and revolutionary companion call to battle untouchability in Hinduism, this is about burying Gandhiji's real message. Amputating Gandhiji's symbols of their substance has been underway for a few years. But with Savarkar on the cover of *Antim Jan*, we may have entered a darker stage of disengagement with Gandhiji's ideas even as stated ideals.

Seema Chishti is a journalist based in Delhi

What numbers do not reveal about tiger conservation

India must not lose sight of the fact that there are other factors critical to ensuring the survival of this big cat

UMA RAMAKRISHNAN

Extinction. This ominous word has one meaning. The death of a species. And it is a word that we seem to hear so often these days, especially in the news. But the opposite is possible. Today (July 29), which is Global Tiger Day (also called International Tiger Day), the world and India can celebrate the recovery of at least one endangered species. India is now reporting increased tiger numbers, and a recent International Union for Conservation of Nature assessment suggests that tiger numbers have increased by 40% since 2005. This is cause for celebration. But is the rise in tiger numbers enough to prevent their extinction?

Genetics and connectivity

Decades of research in ecology and evolution suggest that numbers are critical to avoid extinction. Populations that are smaller than 100 breeding individuals have a high probability of extinction. At the same time, for populations to persist, they should be part of larger landscapes with other such populations that are connected. Small and isolated populations face a high probability of extinction. This is because small populations are subject to chance/random events. These chance events may cause them to lose advantageous genetic variants, while other, detrimental genetic variants might increase in frequency. This process is called genetic drift. Also, individuals in small populations are more likely to be related, leading to inbreeding. This exposes the many slightly disadvantageous genetic variants that are present in all genomes. When expressed together, these detrimental genetic variants cause inbreeding depression, and reduced survival and reproduction of inbred individuals.

A closer look at the distribution of tigers across their range shows that most tiger 'populations' are smaller than 100. On their own, most tiger populations do not have a high chance of survival. So why are we not seeing extinctions happening more often? Is this because tiger populations are connected to each other? We know that most tiger reserves in India are small and embedded in human-dominated landscapes. So, does the landscape between tiger reserves (agricultural fields, reserve forests, built-up areas and roads) allow tigers to move through them?

Research findings

One way to answer this question is to use movement data sourced from radio-collared tigers, often difficult to come by for a rare and endangered species. Alternatively, tigers can be genetically sampled using their excreta/scat, hair and other biological samples from different tiger reserves and analysed in a laboratory. Genetic variants in tiger DNA can be identified and analysed and compared across tiger reserves. Sets of tiger reserves that show shared genetic variation are well connected – the inference is that the intervening landscapes facilitate connectivity or movement.

K.R. DEEPAK

On the flip side, sets of tiger reserves that share less genetic variation must have barriers or landscapes that impede movement and connectivity. For example, in our research we analysed tiger genetic samples in the central Indian tiger landscape and investigated genetic sharing between populations. Our results were surprising. Most land-use types were not too bad for tiger connectivity, including agricultural fields. However, the presence of built-up areas and high traffic roads greatly impeded tiger movement. Using this understanding of connectivity, we were able to simulate scenarios for the future where we asked (given specific land-use change in the next 100 years), how our tiger populations might be affected? Would there be more extinction in the future? Or would they stay connected?

Our results showed that extinction could be avoided if corridors were safeguarded. What was striking was that fencing tiger reserves and isolating them resulted in high extinction. We used these models to also predict the impact of impending development projects in central India – widening of certain highways, for instance, would make them barriers, thereby increasing extinction substantially. These results along with other studies were used in court to petition for (and win a mitigation measure) – having an underpass to allow wildlife movement and connectivity. In summary, as long as we manage landscapes outside tiger reserves to allow tiger movement, and protect prey and tigers inside tiger reserves, tigers are sure to survive in landscapes such as central India.

In Similipal and Rajasthan

But what about tiger populations that are already isolated? People have always wondered why black tigers were found only in the Similipal tiger reserve in Odisha. Our recent work on pseudo-melanistic or black tigers found in Odisha has demonstrated the genetic effects of isolation. Genome sequences of a litter of zoo tigers that included pseudo-melanistic cubs revealed that a single spelling mistake (or mutation) in a specific gene causes these tigers to look this way.

After we found the causal genetic variant, we travelled through Similipal and collected tiger excreta/scat. We looked for this specific genetic variant in tiger DNA and found that it was common only in Similipal, where 60% of the tigers carried at least one copy. Other analyses have suggested that the tigers in Similipal form a small and isolated population. All our results pointed to genetic drift, or random events that have lead to this genetic variant that causes pseudomelanistic coat colour becoming common only in Similipal.

On the other side of India, in Rajasthan, genome sequences from wild tigers reveal that individuals in the Ranthambore tiger reserve show inbreeding. While we do not see adverse effects of inbreeding as yet, individuals are related and carry potentially disadvantageous genetic variants, which might affect the survival and the reproduction of tigers in Ranthambore in future. In short, we are seeing the genetic effects of isolation and small population size in wild tigers at some locations.

Strategies for the future

While we celebrate the recovery of tiger populations only by looking at numbers, we must not lose sight of other factors that are critical to their continued survival, such as connectivity. Special attention is needed for populations that are becoming isolated and facing the genetic consequences of such isolation. The future of such populations may depend on genetic rescue or even the introduction of novel genetic variants. We are fortunate that novel genome sequencing technology provides an opportunity to understand tigers much better in the context of their conservation. The future of tigers will require a 'dialogue' between such data and management strategies in order to ensure their survival. India is lucky to have so many wild tigers and we must work together to save them.

Uma Ramakrishnan is a professor at the National Centre for Biological Sciences, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Bengaluru. She is also a member of the Biodiversity Collaborative

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Breakfast scheme

The new scheme in Tamil Nadu to provide breakfast in government primary schools will definitely help most schoolchildren. That it will complement the free noon meal scheme is a boon to many parents. However, going by visuals shown on television, it is obvious that serving the food hygienically needs to be stressed. School authorities should also make the necessary arrangements so that the food is cooked and served hygienically.

FIONA WALTAIR,
Chennai

■ The noon meal scheme ensured that many children went to school. The breakfast scheme will only boost educational goals. This is one scheme which should serve as an example to the rest of India to aid education.

A.S. THIRUMALAI,
Chennai

Monsoon session

It is unfortunate that the monsoon session of Parliament is witnessing persistent sloganeering and acrimonious scenes, also leading to the suspension of various Opposition MPs. The overall behaviour of MPs inside the august Houses is not adding to their dignity and stature. It would be ideal if the Government puts in place a robust framework to ensure seamless cooperation between the Government and the Opposition.

V. JOHAN DHANAKUMAR,
Chennai

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS:

In the Sports page lead article (July 28, 2022) headlined "Global chess extravaganza all set to make the opening move" both the strap "Rahman's live show will light up the inauguration of the sport's biggest team event" and the references in the text to A.R. Rahman doing a live show, were erroneous. Rahman is away in the United States for his concerts.

In the story titled "India adds five more Ramsar sites" (July 27, 2022), the reference to Ramsar Convention *1961* should be corrected to Ramsar Convention *1971*.

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Is the Environmental Performance Index really faulty?

PARLEY

While the methodology has issues, this is an opportunity for India to study where it stands

Chandra Bhushan *is President and CEO of the International Forum for Environment, Sustainability and Technology (iFOREST)*

Sharachchandra Lele *is Distinguished Fellow in Environmental Policy and Governance at ATREE, Bengaluru, and Professor at IISER, Pune and SNU, Delhi*

Anant Sudarshan *is South Asia Director of the Energy Policy Institute at the University of Chicago*

Scan the QR code to listen to the full interview online

Last month, India protested against its ranking on the Environmental Performance Index (EPI) of 2022, prepared by researchers at the Yale and Columbia Universities in the U.S. The report measures 40 performance indicators across 11 categories to measure the "state of sustainability around the world." India was ranked last (180) with low scores across a range of indicators. The Indian Government as well as environment experts have pointed to the faulty methodology of the index that skews the results in favour of the Global North. Chandra Bhushan, Sharad Lele and Anant Sudarshan discuss the report in a conversation moderated by **Sonikka Loganathan**. *Edited excerpts:*

What are the issues with the methodology?

Chandra Bhushan: Rating by its very nature is a subjective exercise. But a good rating is one that tries to reduce subjectivity, normalises all indicators, and then develops consensus around the subjective issues. The first step is to remove subjectivity as much as possible. Every rating will end up comparing apples with oranges, if you don't normalise the indicators. So, the second step is to normalise indicators. Third, if there is subjectivity, you get experts to generate consensus around it. All three have not been done.

But this was a peer-reviewed study...

CB: I'm not sure what kind of peer review was done because, if you look at the indicators, even a person with basic knowledge of ratings would tell you that the indicators have not been normalised.

Can you give us an example of where this lack of normalisation has impacted India's rank in a category?

CB: EPI has used tree cover loss as an indicator to rate deforestation in a country. Eritrea is the best country [as per the ranking]. The total dense forest cover in Eritrea is only about 50 hectares, which is similar to forest cover in one part of Lutyens' Delhi. How do you compare absolute tree cover loss of a country with 50 ha dense forest with, say, India with millions of ha of dense forest and a tree cover loss of 1 lakh ha?

Is a rating the right way to be measuring environmental progress? What do you think of the government's response?

Sharad Lele: There is a difference between an index and a ranking. Indices have very limited value, even if you make them absolute, because they collapse the hugely complex issue of environment into one number. But relative ranking is useless. For example, you could have all countries between seven and nine out of 10. Some country will still end up at 180 because it is at 7.0 whereas others are 7.1 and above. What does that tell you about environment performance? Nothing.

Now the government, instead of responding and quibbling about details, could have used this occasion to call for a meeting of people within the country who follow these issues, to ask questions about where we are, and put out maybe our own performance index in a much more nuanced manner that tells us something about where we are with respect to, say, five or 10 years ago.

Anant Sudarshan: The EPI has a large data set with a huge amount of information on a whole range of indicators. This is more than just an exercise of coming up with one number– it's a data collection exercise on a whole range of indicators. Certainly, it would be nice if something similar were produced by our Government. Nevertheless, if you look at every single one of the indicators you'll find that India does quite badly on most. This shouldn't come as a surprise to most environmentalists. The point of a rating like this is that it puts together a lot of data and it reminds us that things are not going well on a wide range of environmental outcomes in India.

CB: I also want us to understand how this rating was released and what message it gave out. Its message was: if you are big, if you are middle income or a poor country, if you are in Asia or Africa, you are bad environmentally. But if you are a rich country, you consume a lot, but your local environment is clean, you are the best in the world. I don't think that's right. If you want to solve environmental problems, consumption is what you attack. While recognising that India has problems, I am not willing to accept that the West is the paragon of environmental performance.

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

> **Eritrea is the best country [as per the ranking]. The total dense forest cover in Eritrea is only about 50 hectares, which is similar to forest cover in one part of Lutyens' Delhi.**
>
> CHANDRA BHUSHAN

SL: Ideally, in an EPI, you would look at outcomes. But in reality, you have very limited data on actual outcomes, so you start using proxies like actions taken towards those outcomes. The main indicator of climate change performance is whether the atmospheric carbon dioxide concentration is increasing or decreasing. We all know it is increasing. The world is doing terribly on climate change. How do you allocate this global performance index on climate change, or this outcome variable, to different countries? You would see who are the biggest polluters, and, on a per capita basis, it's the Global North. Similarly, if biodiversity is construed to be a global common good and if a country has wiped out its biodiversity, why should it be getting higher marks because it then added one more protected area?

Speaking of biodiversity, how is Brazil ranked much higher than India, despite deforestation in the Amazon rainforest?

SL: If you want to measure biodiversity performance, you would see how the biodiversity was last year and whether it has changed this year. Then you would ask whether there are flagship species that you could use as an indicator. Instead, the entire focus of the EPI is on habitat. With some combination of percentage and absolute values, you have the West doing well and South Asia doing badly. There's a problem because habitat is being measured in terms of what percentage of the country is under protection. Brazil could be doing well because it's a big country with a relatively low population density where a significant percentage is under protected area. But in a densely populated country like India, you are not going to be able to put a high proportion of area under strict protection.

India puts out the State of Forest report. But the definition of a forest is ever-changing, which is why India has seen an increase in forest cover, as per those reports. Can you contextualise this issue?

SL: You used the word forest cover. The EPI uses the word tree cover. Therein lies the story of how India itself is playing around with this issue. We have not asked why we care about forest cover. There are different answers to this, but if you focus on the carbon sequestration benefits of forests, you wouldn't care whether it is palm or eucalyptus or a natural species which is endemic to India, because it's all carbon. On the other hand, if you care about biodiversity, you would want to look at forests as an association of species which are part of this landscape and not just a random species planted for the sake of making the place look green. So, why we care about forest cover determines what we measure. To take another angle, if you are a local person who is dependent on forest for livelihood, you would prefer an open canopy forest, and may be trimming the trees to get firewood without cutting down the whole tree. In that case, you would see very little tree crown cover, which is what the Forest Survey of India measures through satellites. So, when the EPI looks at tree cover, they are falling into the same trap. Should they look at tree cover or should they look at forest cover, which means natural forests? In the Indian context, this matters because natural forest cover has gone down, while plantations have increased, revealing the fault lines in this issue.

One solution we've seen grow in popularity is tree planting. Is this actually effective?

CB: Planting trees has become like atoning your environmental sin. This is a very dangerous solution to the kind of environmental problems we have, because we are forgetting the role of different ecosystems.

AS: One thing that is dangerous is letting only the government define the metrics it will use to measure success without independent scientific scrutiny. In India we've had this massive increase in what is called forest cover, which is all driven by plantations, while natural forests are dropping. In this indicator, EPI is using tree cover loss from satellite data, so India is doing better on this than it should by some metrics. But at least it's a data point that's being independently collected and that's similar across countries. The criticism of Brazil for tree cover loss and thepraise of the Indian government for "forest gain" are really two different things. One is the rainforest disappearing there and one is plantations being added here. That's a place where an independent index helps, because if we can agree on the indicators, we can get an objective basis of measurement.

SL: There is a funny contradiction here. When it came to biodiversity, because you couldn't measure the outcome very well, you put a lot of emphasis on process and said protected areas is the way to get to biodiversity conservation. When it comes to ecosystem services it is also well acknowledged that local community involvement and people's rights is actually a better way to achieve sustainable enhancement of ecosystem services of all these areas. So how come there is no measure on how much you have decentralised rights over trees or forests, in local communities? If you took that as an indicator, we would be a real laggard in spite of having the Forest Rights Act of 2006.

India ranked 179 in air quality. How do we solve this?

AS: We have failed to control air pollution so far. This is where these indices are useful. It's not useful to compare India with London, but you could compare India with other countries at the same income level and the same population density, and there are many countries that are doing better. Once we notice this, we can ask, why are we doing worse? A large part of it is regulation. Ultimately air pollution is the sort of problem that gets solved through economy-wide regulation.

CB: I agree that there is a regulatory problem with air pollution, but there is also a fundamental problem with the economy. No country has been able to solve air pollution without getting rid of biomass or solid fuel. India combusts around 2.2 billion tonnes of material, of which 1.6 billion tonnes are coal and biomass. Biomass is a problem of poverty and coal is the problem of energy access. The way India will reduce its air pollution is also the way it will solve its climate challenge. The reason why India will not be able to resolve a lot of its air pollution challenge is because of its energy mix. For example, tomorrow, if all the vehicles move to electric vehicles, we will be able to reduce air pollution, cumulatively, by 20%, but 80% of the problem will not be solved.

In preparation for the upcoming COP 27, what should India be doing, especially since we've seen an increased coal production target?

CB: The Russia-Ukraine crisis could have been an opportunity for all of us to start investing massively in renewable energy. But fossil fuel companies have used this short-term deficit in energy supply as an opportunity to open new fossil fuel establishments. In India, fossil fuel consumption is going to increase in the short term. If we are smart, we will try and peak coal as quickly as possible. That would be our roadmap.

NOTEBOOK

Stories that sound promising

It pays to put people at the heart of events or incidents that journalists report on

SOMA BASU

To the world, every reporter's job is to primarily sniff terrible things that are hidden from view. There is no denying that alarming stories grab attention. Given the demands on the column space of a newspaper, human-interest stories are sometimes given a go-by in print.

Apart from the passion to write, every journalist has an innate interest in people and perhaps knows when and how to highlight them. But the challenge is also to convince a boss why, for instance, Kanthimathi, who feeds the lonely and the poor daily in Madurai or the many unsung heroes in corners of the country who try to make the world better without any incentive are important stories.

This is not to undermine any news or event, because each has its own importance. The old newsroom saying – if it bleeds, it leads – perhaps still holds true, but what is truer is that people seek human-interest stories too. Off and on, strong human-interest stories have tugged at the heart strings and set the news agenda. My experience makes me believe a good one always has the power.

A 'no story' that became famous

I remember the year clearly because 9/11 had happened and even after two months our newsroom chats continued to centre around one of the deadliest terrorist attacks ever seen and the trail of grief it left. It was a winter evening and a scrawny-looking man walked into the Delhi office of The Hindu requesting coverage for the free coaching centre he was setting up in Patna for poor children. He said the children dreamt of joining the IITs, and the josh in them was unmistakable. He was upset that most city newspapers had turned him away. They wanted him to prove himself first. I cannot pinpoint what it was: perhaps it was his frailty or the earnestness in his voice and eyes that made me offer him a seat and listen to his story.

The story was about the man, whose proficiency in math got him a seat at Cambridge University. But he had to give it up because his father did not have enough money to send him. The young man had a burning desire to keep his love for the subject alive and a determination to not let money come in the way of children keen to join higher institutions of learning.

Who knew then what Anand Kumar had ahead of him? My three paras on him may have not done wonders, but some donations came his way and with help from elsewhere too, Anand Kumar took off. 'Super 30' was a dream for him and the children he embraced were from Bihar's interiors. The rest is history.

In 2019, when the Hindi film, Super 30, based on his life, was released, I wrote about the man again, who had now become famous. He surprised me by tweeting that he remembered our first meeting when he had no money. It was perhaps the connection I had with him that made him, the subject of a 'no story' in 2001, powerful, and 18 years later, enjoyable.

When journalists focus on people doing remarkable things hidden from view, the impact doesn't pass them by. The story makes a difference. Often, we read about terminally ill patients catching the public imagination with their bucket lists and help pouring in. This is because the human-interest story has the power to move readers.

Multiple studies - at the Universities of Pennsylvania, Southampton and Texas - have shown that stories reinforcing faith in human nature are discussed and shared more, have positive engagement and more reach. News stories with a hopeful ending leave readers feeling informed and motivated to take positive action whereas typical news stories result in people feeling depressed, helpless, anxious and pessimistic.

We still hear the old axiom, good news is no news. But good news is also about a better tomorrow and travels faster in today's world.

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DATA POINT

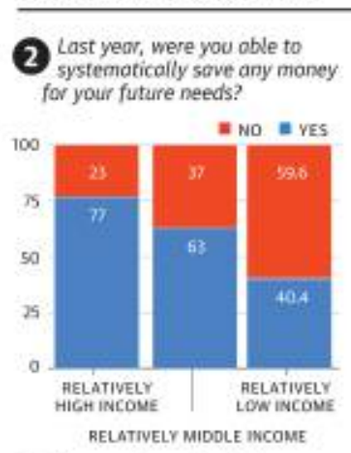
Consumer sentiment weaker among poorer households

In a consumer sentiment survey conducted by Sambodhi Panels in June 2022 across India, significant differences can be observed between high-, middle- and low-income households in their path to recovery post the pandemic. A relatively high proportion of high-income households have recovered well from the pandemic lows, while low-income households have continued to suffer. Select questions and answers from the survey:

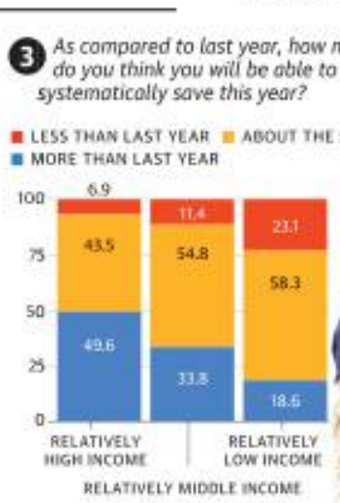
The Consumer Sentiment Survey is a longitudinal series being brought out by Sambodhi Panels and Development Intelligence Unit

1 *Looking back, would you say that your (and your household's) current financial situation these days is better, about the same, or worse than last year?*

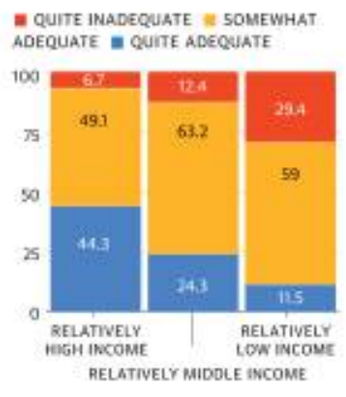
2 *Last year, were you able to systematically save any money for your future needs?*



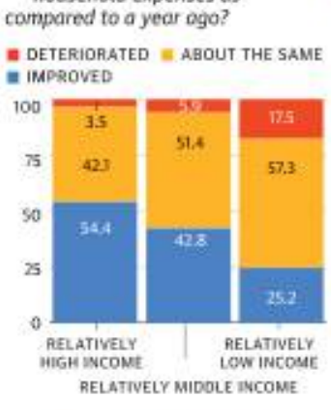
3 *As compared to last year, how much do you think you will be able to systematically save this year?*



4 *In your view, what is the adequacy of your current savings/investments in being able to meet any upcoming social obligations in your family?*



5 *What has been your ability to meet regular monthly household expenses as compared to a year ago?*



6 *Looking ahead, do you think that a year from now, you (and your household) will be better off financially, or worse off, or just about the same as now?*

The Hindu.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

FIFTY YEARS AGO JULY 29, 1972

Centenarian for film on census

Bombay, July 28: Perhaps no one in these days of box-office productions – for that matter, of "new wave" small budget films – will believe that any producer would be frantically looking for a person not less than one hundred years old and with no previous film experience to star as a Hero in his film. But this exactly was the task – and a tough one at that – that the Films Division of the Government of India set itself when the Census Board of India wanted a film to be made to mark the centenary of the Board this year. Always aiming at perfection, the Division decided that a mere centenarian will not fill that bill. The latest census has shown that there is no dearth of 100-year olds in the country. So the Division set about locating a centenarian who had figured in the first census held in 1872, a man or woman who also retains his or her faculties to enable the Division present more than just a visual flashback on census operations over the years as well as on phrases of freedom struggle – this being the Silver Jubilee of Independence. The choice, resulting from a laborious process of enquiries and ploughing through of census archives, has fallen on Nallappa Reddy of Andhra Pradesh who was just a tiny tot of two at the time of the first census. The efforts of the Division could be said to have been more than amply rewarded in that it has not only found a hero and a heroine but also a whole cast, if need be, of 31 constituting the children, grandchildren and great grandchildren of the Reddy's.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JULY 29, 1922

Frontier troubles

Simla, July 28: A communique says: In Waziristan, on 22nd instant the Takkizam came down en spate and washed away about 30 feet of the retaining wall of the road between Kotkal and Sora Rogha. The damager is however reported not to be serious and the breach is being repaired. On 24th, it was reported that the Chaisan Kach route from Tank to Manzal was impassable: also that the road across the river bed north of Jandela was unfit for cars. Reports from Masud County state that on 24th instant a party of about 50 Jalal Khel were lying up in Sagar Nala about 2 miles north-east of Jandola. The Jandola moveable column moved out from camp at 5-30 in the morning to attempt to round up this gang, but the enemy fled on the approach of our troops, suffering two casualties.

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Accessories shown are not a part of the standard equipment. Vehicle body color may differ from the printed photograph.

FROM PAGE ONE

There has never been a better time for sports: PM

Mr. Stalin also recalled the conducting of a major chess event with over 20,000 players when Mr. Modi was the Gujarat Chief Minister. Recalling the efforts the Tamil Nadu government took to host the 44th FIDE Chess Olympiad in Chennai within three months, Mr. Stalin commended all those involved in the hosting of the event. He said hosting of the event would elevate Tamil Nadu's profile in the international arena.

At the colourful inauguration ceremony in the fully-packed Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium, an impressive show was performed by artists drawn from various States to showcase the rich and diverse cultural dances from various parts of the country. The Tamil Nadu government, which sanctioned over ₹92 crore to host the Chess Olympiad, also showcased the rich history of Tamil language, its culture and ancient political history.

Union Minister for Sports Anurag Singh Thakur, Union Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting L. Murugan and FIDE president Arkady Dvorkovich also spoke. Governor R.N. Ravi participated.

When offered the draw of lots, Mr. Modi uncovered black pieces for both India, the top seed in women category as well as the United States, the top seed in the open category.

Earlier, legendary chess player Viswanathan Anand handed over the torch relay to the Chief Minister and the Prime Minister. Later, the Prime Minister handed over the torch to three chess players who used it to light the Olympiad flame in the stadium.

LS sees tussle between Cong. chief, Smriti Irani

Row over Adhir Ranjan 's comments on President Droupadi Murmu

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Congress president Sonia Gandhi and Union Minister Smriti Irani were involved in a dramatic face-off in Lok Sabha on Thursday over Congress leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury's reference to President Droupadi Murmu as "Rashtrapatni".

The sharp exchange took place in between House adjournments and will not be part of Parliament's official records. When the House assembled in the morning, Ms. Irani got up and demanded an apology from Mr. Chowdhury as well as Ms. Gandhi for insulting the President.

"You sanctioned the humiliation of Droupadi Murmu, you sanctioned the humiliation of the tribal legacy of this country," Ms. Irani said in the Lok Sabha, pointing towards Ms. Gandhi.

Soon the ruling party members started shouting "*Sonia Gandhi maafi maango*" . As the House adjourned after 12, Ms. Gandhi had walked over to the Treasury Benches and asked senior BJP member Rama Devi why her name was being dragged into the controversy.

Ms. Irani then intervened and a sharp exchange followed. There are, however, different versions on what transpired between the two leaders. BJP sources said when Ms. Gandhi was asking Ms. Devi why her [Sonia Gandhi]'s name was being taken, Ms. Irani intervened and pointed out, "I am the one who took your name. Why are you asking her?" Thereupon Ms. Gandhi was quoted by BJP sources as saying, "Don't you dare talk to me," to which Ms. Irani reportedly responded by saying, "Don't misbehave with me or try to intimidate me".

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman with other BJP MPs during protest on Tuesday. •PTI

With other BJP MPs joining in and flocking around Ms. Gandhi and Ms. Devi, Nationalist Congress Party's Supriya Sule and Trinamool Congress' Aparupa Poddar escorted the Congress chief away from the Treasury Benches. Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitaraman reported the incident thus: "She [Ms. Gandhi] said, 'you don't talk to me'. As if putting a member of Parliament down in the House. So instead of remorse, we find from the highest leader of the Congress party greater and greater aggression."

Congress communication chief Jairam Ramesh, in a a statement said, Ms. Irani spoke to the Congress chief in an 'insulting' tone after 'accosting' her. "When Ms. Gandhi politely told her that she is not talking to her [Ms. Irani] but to another MP, then Ms. Irani yelled and said, 'you don't know me, who I am'. Many other MPs are witness to it," he said.

BJP demands apology for Congress leader's remarks

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) fielded three Union Ministers, Kiren Rijiju, Sarbananda Sonowal and Bharati Pawar, at a presser held at the party's national headquarters in New Delhi on Thursday, in which they condemned leader of the Congress legislative party in the Lok Sabha Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury's reference to the President Droupadi Murmu as the "*Rashtrapatni*".

Union Minister Kiren Rijiju said, "We strongly condemn the manner in which Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury addressed the President. We've been seeing Congress' comments since the day she was nominated for the post. One Congress spokesperson said 'her selection represents the evil philosophy of India'."

"Not only he but the entire Congress party and its president Sonia Gandhi should apologise to the nation," he added.

Mr. Sonowal termed it an insult to tribal communities and tribal women in particular.

It was slip of the tongue, will apologise, says Adhir

NEW DELHI

Congress leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury on Thursday said he never intended to disrespect President Droupadi Murmu and his 'rashtrapatni' remark was a "slip of the tongue". Accusing the BJP of making a "mountain out of a molehill", he said he will apologise to President Murmu but not to "these *pakhandis*" (hypocrites). PTI

Pakistan pulls out of Chess Olympiad event

An official statement from Islamabad described the torch relay through Kashmir as a "travesty" and called upon India to free political prisoners in the Valley.

The Official Spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs, Arindam Bagchi, described Pakistan's decision as "surprising" as the move came after the Pakistani team had reportedly started its journey to Chennai. "Pakistan condemns India's mischievous attempt to mix politics with sports. As a protest, Pakistan has decided not to participate in the 44th Chess Olympiad and will also raise the matter with the International Chess Federation at the highest level," said Pakistan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the statement.

The announcement from Islamabad came two days after the Chess Federation of Pakistan said a 10-member Pakistani team would travel to Chennai to participate in the 44th Chess Olympiad.

Conveying India's position, Mr. Bagchi said in response, "It is surprising that Pakistan has taken the decision to not participate in the FIDE chess Olympiad, particularly after its team has reached India. Insofar as their argument being given on Jammu and Kashmir – the Union Territories of J&K have been ours and will remain an integral part of India. It is highly unfortunate that Pakistan has politicised a prestigious international event by making such statements and withdrawing its participation."

Disqualify the rebel MPs, Raut tells Birla

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Shiv Sena leader Sanjay Raut's meeting with Speaker of the Lok Sabha Om Birla on Thursday has led to much speculation.

Sources privy to the details of the meeting said Mr. Raut asked for the disqualification of the 12 MPs who have aligned with Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde.

However, sources did not comment on whether the Speaker had offered Mr. Raut any assurance on the matter.

The meeting comes a day after the Uddhav Thackeray faction filed a petition in the Supreme Court against Mr. Birla's recognition of Rahul Shewale, who is a member of the rebel camp led by Mr. Eknath, as the floor leader.

Mr. Shewale was recognised as such, and Bhavana Gawali was named party's chief whip, on July 19 after a group of MPs of the Shinde camp met Mr. Birla.

Supreme Court petition

Challenging this decision, the Supreme Court petition contended that Mr. Birla's actions had been arbitrary, without taking into account the views of the Uddhav Thackeray faction, and were contrary to the decisions of the Shiv Sena and its representatives in Parliament.

"The Speaker made the impugned changes to the positions of the leader and the chief whip without adhering to basic rules of natural justice or even calling for an explanation from the Shiv Sena political party or the petitioners herein, despite categorical requests in this regard having been communicated to him," the Supreme Court petition said.

Rajya Sabha suspends three more members

First time a provision in the rule book was used to suspend MPs for holding placards, say sources

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Rajya Sabha suspended three more MPs on Thursday for a week taking the total number of suspended members to 23. Experienced politicians point out that suspending such a large number of members is unheard in the history of parliamentary democracy.

On Monday, Aam Aadmi Party MPs Sushil Kumar Gupta and Sandeep Kumar Pathak and independent MP from Assam Ajit Kumar Bhuyan were suspended for holding placards.

Sources in the Rajya Sabha secretariat said it was for the first time that a provision in the rule book was used to suspend members for holding placards.

Speaking out: Members protesting in the Rajya Sabha during the Monsoon Session, in New Delhi on Thursday. •PTI

The House adopted a motion moved by Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs V. Muraleedharan to suspend the three members. Earlier, Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman Harivansh named the three members for holding placards. The motion was then passed by a voice vote. When some Opposition members demanded division on the motion, Mr. Harivansh denied and said a division will be allowed only if the protesting members go back to their seats from the Well of the House.

The Treasury Benches erupted in protests over Congress leader in Lok Sabha Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury alleged remarks against President Droupadi Murmu.

Two adjournments

Rajya Sabha witnessed two adjournments in the second half before it was finally adjourned for the day a little after 4 pm, following protest by the Treasury Benches as well as the Opposition members. Tiruchi Siva, the vice chairman, requested the three suspended members to withdraw from the House before the proceedings could begin.

The members who were suspended in the first half continued to be present in the House and joined the other members in raising slogans against price rise, Gujarat hooch tragedy and GST.

A source in the Rajya Sabha secretariat said as per the Parliamentary Customs and Conventions as codified in the 'Handbook for the Members of Rajya Sabha', "Production of exhibits on the Floor of the House is not in order" and the members are required to note and observe these customs and conventions. Mr. Naidu has been objecting to members holding placards during the proceedings of the House whenever it happened and urged them to stop.

Partha Chatterjee is out of Bengal Cabinet

SHIV SAHAY SINGH
KOLKATA

Five days after he was arrested in the West Bengal School Service Commission recruitment scam, the Trinamool Congress on Thursday, relieved Partha Chatterjee from his ministerial responsibilities, and suspended him from the party.

A notification by the State government said Mr. Chatterjee had been relieved of his duties of Minister incharge of four departments, with immediate effect.

"All the departments with Partha da [Partha Chatterjee] are coming to me. There has to be a Cabinet reshuffle [for the portfolios to be allocated to others]," Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said. The departments which Mr. Chatterjee handled included Industry and Commerce and Parliamentary Affairs.

Later in the day, the Trinamool leadership held a meeting, suspended Mr. Chatterjee from the party and removed him from the post of secretary general and national vice-president.

Pressure was mounting on Ms. Banerjee to act against the Trinamool heavyweight ever since his arrest on July 23. The 69-year-old has been among the party's tallest leaders after the Chief Minister and her nephew Abhishek Banerjee.

Earlier in the day, senior party leaders, including spokesperson Kunal Ghosh, demanded action against the Trinamool heavyweight.

The party leadership has been trying to distance itself from Mr. Chatterjee since the Enforcement Directorate (ED) raids and seizure of cash.

Trinamool MP flags censorship of Opposition voices in House

Two MPs have rallied dissenting members in RS

VIJAITA SINGH
NEW DELHI

The Monsoon Session has hardly seen any business since it commenced on June 18. Rajya Sabha, has seen multiple disruptions and adjournments following loud protests by the Opposition members.

Two members – Trinamool Congress' Sushmita Dev and Aam Aadmi Party's Sanjay Singh – till they were suspended with 21 others this week have turned out to be the megaphones for the Opposition that has put up a joint front to seek a discussion on price rise of essential commodities.

Ms. Dev says when the Opposition parties join things fall into place. "General agreement is to reflect the mood of the nation since the government is not allowing a debate. When Sanjay Singh raises slogans we amplify him, our slogans are a mix of Hindi and Bengali....it flows from our unity on the floor," she said when asked if they plan the slogans. "I am in politics for the past 27 years, I have worked for street vendors for 17 years, raising slogans is not new for me. It is just that my efforts are complemented by all members in the well," said Mr. Singh. Ms. Dev claims there is a complete censorship of the Opposition on Rajya Sabha Television (RSTV), rechristened Sansad TV, and they are forced to raise their voice and bring placards to get themselves heard.

"Please watch RSTV.... When we are in the Well of the House you can censor us, but when leaders of Opposition parties are standing at their seats at least show them," Ms. Dev said.

"They give us as little visibility as possible, the kind of censorship going around in the country is also going around inside the House," she added.

Suspended members to continue protest

NEW DELHI

The protest by suspended members of Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha continued for the second consecutive day in Parliament complex. The members, who were suspended for creating ruckus in the House, will spend another night in the open at the complex.

Biden, Xi hold talks amid Taiwan row

ANANTH KRISHNAN
BEIJING

U.S. President Joe Biden and China's President Xi Jinping on Thursday held a phone meeting amid rising tensions between the two countries on a range of issues, most recently on the possible upcoming visit of U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi to Taiwan.

Thursday's call was their first since March – and the fifth since Mr. Biden took office – and came amid fears of a new Taiwan crisis, adding to an already long list of tensions on matters ranging from trade and technology to the South China Sea.

China this week stepped up its warnings on the announced visit by Ms. Pelosi and said the U.S. would bear all the consequences if the visit, which would mark the most high-level engagement between the U.S. and Taiwan since 1997, went ahead.

Observers pinned their hopes on Thursday's call as providing a last possible off-ramp. Mr. Biden is expected to make the case that the U.S. President cannot veto a visit by a House Speaker representing a different branch of Government. Mr. Xi, for his part, might demand a reiteration from Mr. Biden of his government's commitment on its "One China" policy.

China's Foreign Ministry and military issued separate warnings on the possible visit. A spokesperson for the Ministry of Defence said China "will not sit back". "China demands that the United States honour its promise that it would not support 'Taiwan independence'," PLA Senior Colonel Tan Kefei said, adding, "if the U.S. side insists on making the visit, the Chinese military will take strong actions to thwart any external interference or 'Taiwan independence' separatist scheme."

Nancy Pelosi

A visit by Ms. Pelosi, whom he referred to as the third most important U.S. political figure after the President and the Vice-President, would "seriously violate the one-China principle and the stipulations in the three China-U.S. joint communiques, seriously harm China's sovereignty and territorial integrity, and seriously damage the political foundation of China-U.S. relations."

BJP has a 'Karnataka-sized' problem, and it's all from within

Murders of Harsha, Praveen have set off recriminations against ruling party

NISTULA HEBBAR
NEW DELHI

In the BJP's often dismal self-assessment of its poor expansion in the southern States, the one bright spark used to be its success in Karnataka. Events in the last few months show that the party now has a Karnataka-sized problem, just less than a year ahead of polls in the State.

The murder of Harsha Jingade, a Bajrang Dal cadre, on February 20 in Shivamogga and the murder of Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha (BJYM) member Praveen Nettaru in Dakshina Kannada district on July 26 have set off a flood of recriminations against the ruling BJP from within the party cadre.

The protests have prompted Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai to cancel elaborate celebrations on completing one year in office scheduled to be held in Doddaballapur and attended by BJP national president J.P. Nadda.

NEWS ANALYSIS

Angry crowds surrounded BJP State president and local MP Nalin Kateel on Wednesday when he went to visit Praveen's family. Slogans of '*BJP hai hai*', unimaginable for the party in the Sangh stronghold of coastal Karnataka, rang out from incensed BJYM cadre. Many BJP IT cell members, around 166 from Bagalkote, Chikmangalur and other districts, publicly tendered their resignations, upset at what they termed was the helplessness of the BJP government in the State to tackle dangers to their own party members.

Activists shouting slogans against the murder of BJP worker Praveen Nettaru in Bengaluru on Thursday •PTI

The anger burst forth on Wednesday despite Central leaders such as Pralhad Joshi and others putting out statements that this was an attack which pointed to the involvement of the Popular Front of India.

Cadre's grouse

The question that the cadre were asking was, however, different. In a State where the BJP was in power, how were such violent murders allowed to happen? When apprehended, how were the accused in the Harsha case seen making video calls from jail? The BJP government under Mr. Bommai is being termed as being not just soft in terms of controlling law and order, but the reasons attributed to it are also pointed towards the way the BJP government was formed in this term – with the help of dissidents from other Opposition parties.

In Whatsapp messages circulated within BJYM and other BJP and Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh groups, a list with names of 14 top Ministers in the Karnataka government was floated, pointing out that all were either from the Congress or the Janata Dal (S).

Mr. Bommai himself is not a dyed in the wool Sangh Parivar man and a part of the shade being thrown on his government from within is also because of that.

His accession to the Chief Minister's chair as a replacement for B.S. Yediyurappa is being seen as more for the comfort levels of Karnataka BJP leaders sitting in Delhi, with no accountability in the State, rather than what the cadre wanted.

The two rays of hope for the BJP in Karnataka are the fact that the Congress State unit is in a state of war between former Chief Minister Siddharamiah and Karnataka State unit chief D.K. Shivakumar, and the overall popularity of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

For the BJP to face the polls next year though, it will have to get its own house in order fast.

APPEAL

Name of Patient: **Master ARNAV SHARMA**, 8 years. Hospital Name: RAJIV GANDHI CANCER INSTITUTE, DELHI. Diagnosis: Thalassemia Major & is currently under treatment at Rajiv Gandhi Cancer Institute and Research Center. He requires allogeneic stemcell transplant. The approximate cost of treatment will be **Rs. 25,00,000/-.**

We request kind hearted Philanthropists to save him. Kindly send donation by Cheque/D.D/M.O. favouring **Save Poor Lives** and on the back of Cheque write A/c Arnav Sharma **Our Account Details:** S/B Account No. 20000913487, State Bank of India, Raja Annamalaipuram Branch, and IFSC CODE: SBIN0001855, You Can Donate through Google Pay No. **9884607377**, UPI ID. **savepoorlives@oksbi**. All donations are exempted under 80G of I.T. ACT.

Contact: SAVE POOR LIVES REGISTERED PUBLIC CHARITABLE TRUST, (Admin Division), Flat No. A1, Ceebros Garden, Ground Floor, Old No. 76, Kamarajar Salai, Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai-600028. **New No: 044 35691848**, Mobile: **9884607377**, E-mail: **savepoorlives@gmail.com** Our website: **www.savepoorlives.com**

Colombo denies reports on Chinese ship

Reports say it will enter Hambantota in August; India says it is monitoring the ship's progress 'carefully'

SUHASINI HAIDAR
MEERA SRINIVASAN
NEW DELHI/COLOMBO

Sri Lanka's Defence Ministry on Thursday denied reports that a Chinese research vessel involved in space and satellite tracking would enter the Hambantota port in August this year, even as India sent a "clear message" that it was monitoring the ship's progress "carefully".

"We have no confirmation of such a vessel calling at the Hambantota port," a Defence Ministry spokesman told *The Hindu* in Colombo, when asked about the reports. The vessel's arrival was highlighted by BRISL (Belt & Road Initiative Sri Lanka), a Colombo-based organisation studying China's ambitious connectivity project.

On its website, the BRISL said "Yuan Wang 5, which set sail from the Chinese port of Jiangyin on July 13, and passed by Taiwan is now in the East China Sea, and was expected to dock in Sri Lanka's Hambantota port from August 11-17 for 'replenishment' while it continues to conduct Space and Satellite control and research activities in the north-western part of the Indian Ocean Region" through August and September.

The Yuang Wan 5 is headed to Hambantota and expected to arrive on August 11, as per the global marine tracking website.

"The visit of Yuan Wang 5 to Hambantota Port will be excellent opportunity for Sri Lanka and the regional developing nations to learn and develop their own space programmes," the report published by the "education and consulting platform" BRISL said last week. "It is not a military vessel. The details of the course of the vessel are available online for anyone to see," BRISL Director Yasiru Ranaraja told *The Hindu*.

When asked, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) confirmed it had seen the report, which had appeared in *The Economic Times*. "We are aware of reports of a proposed visit by this vessel combined to the port in August. Let me just say that the government carefully monitors any development having a bearing on India's security and economic interests and takes all necessary measures to safeguard them. I think that should be a clear message," said MEA spokesperson Arindam Bagchi during a weekly media briefing.

According to information on a global marine tracking website (www.marinetraffic.com), the Yuang Wan 5 is currently sailing "at 19.0 knots", and headed to Hambantota, expected to arrive on August 11 at noon. It is unclear whether the Sri Lankan Defence Ministry's statement indicates that the ship was not actually bound for Hambantota, or that India's objections have been taken on board and the ship has been diverted. *The Hindu* is yet to receive a response from Sri Lanka's Ministry of Defence to its query citing the MEA spokesman's comment.

Stern view

India has traditionally taken a stern view of Chinese military or suspected dual-purpose vessels in the Indian ocean, and the MEA has protested such visits with Sri Lanka in the past. India's concerns have been focused on Hambantota in particular. In 2017, Colombo leased the southern port to China Merchant Port Holdings, after Sri Lanka was unable to keep its loan repayment commitments, fanning fears over potential use of the port for military purposes.

In 2014, Sri Lanka's decision to allow a Chinese nuclear-powered submarine Changzheng 2 in Colombo became a diplomatic flashpoint, as New Delhi expressed serious concern.

Wildlife amendments to 'save entrepreneurs from harassment'

The move may decrease the burden on the judicial system

JACOB KOSHY
NEW DELHI

The Centre's proposed amendments to decriminalise certain provisions of the Environment Protection Act (EPA), were to "save law abiding citizens/entrepreneurs from undue harassment in case of minor non-compliances," Minister of State (Environment), Ashwini Choubey, informed Rajya Sabha, on Thursday, in response to a question.

In the absence of such a provision, several court cases are filed, that "increase the burden on the judicial system," he noted.

Replacing a clause

Earlier this month, the Environment Ministry issued a notification proposing amendments to the Environment Protection Act (EPA), by replacing a clause that provides for imprisoning violators with one that only requires them to pay a fine. This however, did not apply to violations that caused grave injury or loss of life. The proposed fines, in lieu of imprisonment, are also up to 500 times greater than those currently levied.

Punishment for violators

Currently, the Act says that violators could be punished with five years imprisonment or a fine of up to ₹1 lakh, or with both. Were violations to continue, an additional fine of up to ₹5,000 would be levied every day. There is also a provision for jail terms to extend to seven years. Historically, however, no corporate offender has actually been imprisoned under the provisions of the Act.

The Environment Ministry said that it had received "suggestions" to decriminalise existing provisions of the EPA to weed out "fear of imprisonment for simple violations."

An analysis by the Centre for Science and Environment found that Indian courts took between nine to 33 years to clear a backlog of cases for environmental violations.

Beginning 2018, close to 45,000 cases were pending for trial, and another 35,000 cases were added in that year.

More than 90 per cent cases were pending for trial in five of the seven environment laws.

"The provisions are proposed to be decriminalised with heavier penalties in order to encourage self-regulation in law abiding citizens and entrepreneurs on the one hand, and imposition of heavier penalties, coupled with provisions of IPC, 1860, to act as deterrent for violators on the other hand," Mr. Choubey noted.

IN BRIEF

Maldives President Solih to visit India in August

NEW DELHI

President of the Maldives Ibrahim Mohamed Solih will pay an official visit between August 1 and 4, official spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs announced here on Thursday.

Heavy downpour halts Amarnath yatra

SRINAGAR

Intense rainfall in Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday temporarily halted the Amarnath yatra and affected traffic on the National Highways. An official said rain on Thursday morning resulted in slippery tracks up to the cave shrine on the twin routes of Baltal and Pahalgam.

'Airlines reported 478 technical snags in a year'

Govt. gives details of inspections

JAGRITI CHANDRA
NEW DELHI

Airlines reported 478 technical snags in the past one year, from July 1, 2021, to June 31, 2022, the government informed Parliament on Wednesday. Since the start of this year till July 25, airlines reported five incidents (SpiceJet-2, Alliance Air-1, Air India-1 and IndiGo-1), four serious incidents (IndiGo-3, Air Asia-1) and one accident (SpiceJet), revealed the data presented by Minister for Civil Aviation Jyotiraditya Scindia.

These figures are lower than those seen in the same comparative period in 2019, when there were eight incidents (Air India -2, SpiceJet-2, Air India Express-1, IndiGo-1, Air Asia India-1 and Vistara-1), 13 serious incidents (IndiGo-6, SpiceJet -2, Vistara- 2, GoFirst-1, Alliance Air-1, Air India Express-1) and one accident (SpiceJet).

Spot checks

Between July, 2021 and June, 2022, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) carried out a total of 177 surveillance, 497 spot checks and 169 night surveillance to examine engineering and maintenance aspects of various airlines.

Following these inspections, the regulator took action in 21 instances of violations, which included measures such as suspension of licence, withdrawal of the airline staff responsible for aircraft maintenance and issuance of warning letters.

'No plan to set up committee to implement Uniform Civil Code'

Law Commission told to look into it, Rijiju tells Rajya Sabha

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The government does not propose to set up a committee to implement a uniform civil code (UCC), Law Minister Kiren Rijiju told the Rajya Sabha on Thursday.

"Government has requested the Law Commission of India to undertake examination of various issues relating to uniform civil code and to make recommendation thereon," the Minister said in his written reply.

On July 22, responding to a question in the Lok Sabha, the Law Minister had said that no decision had been taken on implementation of UCC as the matter is sub-judice.

Kiren Rijiju

The Minister had said legislative interventions ensure gender and religion-neutral uniform laws.

Article 44 of the Constitution provides that the State shall endeavour to secure for the citizen a uniform civil code throughout the territory of India.

He had also informed the Lok Sabha that personal laws, such as Intestacy and Succession, Wills, Joint Family and Partition and Marriage and Divorce, relate to Entry 5 of List-III-Concurrent List of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution.

"... hence, the States are also empowered to legislate upon them," he had said.

Poll promise

UCC has been a long-time poll promise of the BJP.

The BJP-ruled Uttarakhand has set up a panel to examine the implementation of UCC.

India will become 'Vishwa Guru' only through SAARC

Resolve Kashmir issue, Mufti tells PM

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
SRINAGAR

Former Chief Minister and Peoples Democratic Party president Mehbooba Mufti on Thursday said the route for India to become a 'Vishwa Guru' is through J&K and SAARC by initiating a dialogue with neighbours, including Pakistan.

"The route to become a 'Vishwa Guru' is not G-7, G-20 or Quad but the SAARC platform. If you (Prime Minister Narendra Modi) could not become a 'guru' of your neighbours like Bhutan, Nepal, etc., how would one think of India becoming a 'Vishwa Guru'," Ms. Mufti, who was speaking on the party's 23rd foundation day in Srinagar, said.

Mehbooba Mufti

"History will remember you for resolving the Kashmir issue, not for demolishing mosques. It only attracts hatred," Ms. Mufti said. In a veiled reference to the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign launched by the BJP in Kashmir, Ms. Mufti said "Hoist the Tiranga on 1,000 square km of land that China has grabbed from us in Ladakh. The flag is being politicised. Small shopkeepers are threatened to hoist it or face action," Ms. Mufti said.

TELANGANA FIBER GRID CORPORATION LTD.
ITE&C Department, Govt of Telangana
Landline: 040-48590751, Mobile: 8977905756 Email: tfiber@telangana.gov.in

No. T-Fiber/RFI/01/2022-23 **Notice Inviting Responses to RFI** Dated: July 29th, 2022

Telangana Fiber Grid Corporation Limited invites responses to Request for Information (RFI) from licensed Service providers/Business partners for Delivering Broadband Services in the State of Telangana.

Description: Selection of Business Partners for delivering Broadband Services in the State of Telangana; **Expected Respondents (Categories): 1.** Telecom Service Providers (TSP) and Internet Service Providers (ISPs), **2.** Multi-System Operators (MSOs), **3.** Business and Operations Management Partners, **4.** Over-the-Top Service Providers (OTT) – Entertainment and Over-the-Top Service Providers (OTT) Enterprise, **5.** Data Center Service Providers, Cloud Service Providers, Content Delivery Network Service Providers, **6.** Other Institutions (Academia, NGOs, State & Central Government Departments, Development Banks).

Date of RFI release: July 29th, 2022. **Last Date for RFI response submission:** August 19, 2022.

Detailed RFI is made available at www.tfiber.telangana.gov.in from 29th July 2022; any further notices including amendments to the RFI will be uploaded on this website only.

The response needs to be submitted on the website in the section provided to upload. A hard copy can also be submitted to The Managing Director, Telangana Fiber Grid Corporation Limited, 7th Floor, Splendid Towers, S.P. Road, Indian Airlines Colony, Begumpet, OPP. Begumpet Police Station, Secunderabad, Telangana, India – 500016.

DIPR R.O.No. 477-PP/CL-Agency/ADVT/1/2022-23, Dt: 28-07-22 **Sd/- Managing Director, T-Fiber, Hyd.**

CENTRE FOR BRAIN RESEARCH (CBR)
An Autonomous Centre of the Indian Institute of Science
Bangalore – 560 012, Ph. No: 080 2293 3588

Recruitment of Manager (Administration)

Applications are invited for the position of **Manager (Administration)**. Highly motivated and interested candidates may apply.
For details on educational qualification, experience, pay scale, etc., please visit: **https://www.cbr.iisc.ac.in/**
Last date to apply: **16th August 2022.**

Sd/- Director

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE
Bangalore - 560012.
Lr. No.: CCMD/AR-SR/2022-25 **Date: 27.07.2022**

EXTENSION OF REGISTRATION OF CIVIL / ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS

Last date for submission of applications for registration of **CIVIL / ELECTRICAL** contractors in Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore is extended up to **31.08.2022**.

Sd/-, REGISTRAR

Office of the Executive Engineer, P.W.D. Dn. Sri Ganganagar, [Raj.]
No. EEG/NIT/2022-23/1576 Dated: 19.07.2022
Notice Inviting Bid No. 11 Year 2022-23
NIB Code-PWD2223A1264

Bid for "[illegible]" are invited from interested bidders up to 6.00 PM date 16.08.2022 (Technical bid). Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (**http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in**) of the state and departmental website. The approximate value of the procurement is Rs. 356.37 laks.
UBN No.- PWD2223WSOB04564

(Pawan Kumar Yadav)
Executive Engineer
DIPR/C/9733/2022 **P.W.D. Dn. Sri Ganganagar**

TAMIL NADU AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY
COIMBATORE – 641 003
RATE CONTRACT NOTIFICATION – 2022-23

On behalf of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, sealed tenders are invited for the supply of Chemicals, Laboratory apparatus, Scientific Equipments, Consumables, Glassware - Fragile and Non-Fragile items etc., for the constituent Colleges, Departments, Research Stations, KVKs and other Centres of the University during the financial year 2022-2023. The firms should have three years experience as on 01.01.2022 as "MANUFACTURER" of the said items, they intend to supply and hold a valid "Manufacturer's License" for such of those items which are marketed under their own approved or patented brand names or trademarks. The term "Manufacturer" also includes manufacturers or their sole agents or their dealer whom they authorize to participate in the tender. The Manufacturer should authorize only one dealer/distributor for participating in the tender. The tender documents can be obtained from the office of the Comptroller, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore – 641003 on payment of cost of Rs.1770/- (Rs.1500/- + GST @18%) through a demand draft drawn in favour of the **COMPTROLLER, TAMIL NADU AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, COIMBATORE** payable at State Bank of India, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University Branch, Coimbatore-3, subsequent to the date of publication of this notification. The last date for the issue of tender documents is **16.08.2022 upto 11.00 A.M.** The last date for receipt of filled tenders is upto **1.00 P.M on 16.08.2022.**

The tenders will be opened at **2.30 pm on 16.08.2022**. If the tender opening date happens to be a holiday, the tenders will be opened on next working day.

DIPR/ 3371 /TENDER/2022 **COMPTROLLER**

Municipal Corporation Jodhpur North
(Nagar Nigam Bhavan, Polotechnic College Parishar Residency Road, Jodhpur)
(www.mjnorth.raj.nic.in Tel : 0291-2651483)
S. No. 2313 **Notice Inviting Bid** Date :- 25/07/2022
DLB2223WSOB12225

Online Proposals are invited on behalf of Municipal Corporation Jodhpur North (MCJN) from eligible bidders fulfilling eligibility criteria as described in the Bid Documents for work of "Rate contract work for regular sewer cleaning with the help of Sewer Jetting cum Suction machines of medium capacity (16T Chassis) including deployment of machines, necessary equipments and skilled manpower in jurisdiction of Jodhpur Municipal Corporation North." The further detailed bid conditions can be downloaded from **www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in** and **www.urban.rajasthan.gov.in/mcjn** Document Will be available on website from Date 26/07/2022.

Commissioner
Raj.Samwad/C/5523/2022-23 **Municipal Corporation Jodhpur North**

Odisha State Medical Corporation Limited (OSMC)
In front of Ram Mandir, Convent Square, Unit-III, Bhubaneswar-751 001
Tel.:(0674) 2380608; Website: www.osmcl.nic.in, Email: proc.osmcl.od@nic.in
Assuring Quality, Saving Lives

Notification No.5376 / OSMCL / 2022 **Date : 27.07.2022**

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER FOR SUPPLY, INSTALLATION & COMMISSIONING OF 3 TESLA MRI SCAN MACHINE FOR DEPT. OF RADIO DIAGNOSIS OF SCB MCH-CUTTACK

Online Bids through **e-Tender portal (https://tendersodisha.gov.in)** are invited from eligible bidders for **supply, installation & commissioning of Equipment as per the particulars mentioned below :**

Sl.	Bid Reference No.	Item Name	Bid Document Cost inclusive of GST (Rs.)
1.	OSMCL / 2022-23 / MRI Scan_SCB MCH Cuttack / 08	e-tender for Supply, Installation & Commissioning of 3 Tesla MRI Scan Machine for Dept. of Radio diagnosis of SCBMCH-Cuttack	5,600/-

Sl. No.	Particulars	Date and time	
1.	Date & time of release of bid	27.07.2022, 5 PM	
2.	Date & time of Pre-bid meeting	03.08.2022, 11 AM Venue : Conference Hall, Odisha State Medical Corporation Ltd., Convent Square, Unit-III, Bhubaneswar	
3.	Date & time of Online bid submission	Start Date & Time 10.08.2022, 3 PM	End Date & Time 24.08.2022, 5 PM
4.	Date & time of online Technical Bid Opening	26.08.2022, 3 PM	
5.	Date of opening of Price Bid	To be informed to the qualified bidders	

The bid document with all information relating to the bidding process including cost of bid document, Prequalification criteria and terms & conditions are available in the websites: **www.osmcl.nic.in** and **https://tendersodisha.gov.in** . The Authority reserves the right to accept / reject any part thereof or all the bids without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/- **Managing Director, OSMC Ltd., Odisha**
CAD-1256 OIPR-10112/11/0027/2223

ऑयल एण्ड नेचुरल गैस कॉरपोरेशन लिमिटेड
Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited

Description : Expression of interest (EOI) for carrying out Geotechnical, Environmental and Engineering analysis to study the impact of the upward revision of bearing pressure and spud can diameter

1. Drilling Services, Mumbai Region of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) is planning to engage an agency for carrying out Geotechnical, Environmental and Engineering analysis to study the impact of the upward revision of bearing pressure and spud can diameter limits in ONGC's rig hiring tenders for jack-up rigs.
2. Expression of Interest is invited from reputed Companies which are interested in providing the subject service.
3. Potential bidders shall present their feedback with details of proposed action (as per the details requested in EOI document) in the meeting planned on 03-Aug-2022.

Venue	Conference Room, 6th Floor, 11-High ONGC Office Complex, Bandra-Sion Link Road, Mumbai – 400017
ONGC's presentation and interactive session	03-Aug-2022 (Wednesday), 14:00 Hrs. (IST)
Contact Person :	In-Charge, Rig Move & Safety Cell, MR-DS Email: rigmove@ongc.co.in Contact No. +91-22-2408 8321 / +91-22-2408 8367

For further details of the EOI, please log on to our website: https://tenders.ongc.co.in.

GOVERNMENT OF HIMACHAL PRADESH
DEPARTMENT OF MPP & POWER
GLOBAL INVITATION OF BIDS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF HYDRO ELECTRIC PROJECTS IN HIMACHAL PRADESH
NOTICE INVITING PROPOSALS

The Director (Energy) on behalf of Governor, Himachal Pradesh invites proposals from 'Eligible Bidders' for the implementation of the following Hydro-electric Projects, in Private Sector on Build, Own, Operate and Transfer (BOOT) basis:-

LIST OF PROJECTS FOR IMPLEMENTATION ON BOOT BASIS UNDER PVT. SECTOR

Sr. No.	Name of Project	Tentative Capacity		River/ Stream/ Basin	District	Remarks
1	Seli	400	MW	Chenab River	Lahaul & Spiti	DPR Prepared
2	Miyar	120	MW	Chenab River	Lahaul & Spiti	DPR Prepared
	G. Total	520	MW			

A. The '**Eligible Bidder**' shall mean any entity which can qualify as a generating company as defined in Electricity Act, 2003 Part-I Section 2[28] or as defined in the detailed Notice Inviting Proposal available on the official website of Directorate of Energy: https://doehimachal.nic.in/

[This would imply that any company or body Corporate or association or body of individuals, whether incorporated or not or artificial juridical person would be eligible]

B. GENERAL CONDITIONS:-For detailed terms & conditions kindly visit official website of Directorate of Energy: https://doehimachal.nic.in/

C. OTHER INSTRUCTIONS:

1. The Bid Document containing details of Terms & Conditions regarding Bidding Process & Project Implementation, Bid Application Formats, questionnaire etc. would be available to the interested Bidders on payment of **Rupees Two Lakh (Rs. 2,00,000/-)** only per project, through a **bank draft/bankers cheque**, from the office of **the Chief Engineer, Directorate of Energy, Shanti Bhawan, Sector-6, Phase-III, New Shimla (HP)-171009, Tel. 91-177-2673552, 91-177-2673553 Fax No. +91-177-2673553 e-mail: ceenergy09@gmail.com w. e. f. fifteen days after publication**. The bank draft/banker's cheque shall be given in the name of Chief Engineer, Directorate of Energy, Shimla and drawn on any scheduled Indian Bank at Shimla. For getting the documents through Courier service, the additional charges @ Rs.3000/- for inland and Rs.5000/- for foreign countries shall be payable through a bank draft/bankers cheque.

2. The 'Technical-Bids' in response to the advertisement should be accompanied by a non-**refundable Processing Fee @ Rs.50,000/-(Rupees Fifty Thousand Only) per MW subject to maximum of Rupees Twenty Five Lakh (Rs. 25,00,000/-) per Project applied for**. The payment shall be made through bank draft/bankers cheque in the name of Chief Engineer, Directorate of Energy, Shimla drawn on any Scheduled Indian Bank at Shimla. Bids not accompanied by the Processing Fee are liable to be rejected forthwith.

3. For any query or clarification, the **Chief Engineer, Directorate of Energy, Shanti Bhawan, Sector-6, Phase-III, New Shimla (HP)-171009**, may be contacted on **Tel. 91-177-2673552, Fax No. +91-177-2673553 e-mail:** ceenergy09@gmail.com **& Official website of Directorate of Energy:** https://doehimachal.nic.in/

4. The last date for sale of Bid Documents to the interested bidders, the last date of submission of bids in the office of Chief Engineer, Directorate of Energy, at the above address and the date of opening of Bids are as under :-

i. Start of sale of Bid Document	**: 05.08.2022**
ii. Last date for sale of Bid Documents	**:06.09.2022upto 1700 Hours**
iii. Tentative date of Pre-Bid Conference	**: 14.09.2022**
iv. Last date of submission of Bids	**: 29.09.2022upto 1300 Hours (IST)**
v. Date of opening of Bids	**: 29.09.2022 at 1500 Hours (IST) onwards**

Note:-If the Last date for submission of Bids or the date of opening of bids happens to be a holiday declared by the Govt. of Himachal Pradesh in Shimla, the bids will be submitted and opened on the next working day in the same order and at the same time.

Brief Project details can be seen on the web site https://doehimachal.nic.in/

For & on behalf of the Governor of HP
-sd/-
Director Energy,
Government of Himachal Pradesh.
Tel. +91-177-2673551, Fax +91-1772673553
E-mail:dir.doehp@nic.in
HP / 0333/2022-2023

Monk's death over mining dispute churns Rajasthan politics ahead of election

It has given BJP an ammunition to attack the Congress government

ISHITA MISHRA
BHARATPUR

The self-immolation and death of a septuagenarian monk, Baba Vijay Das, who was protesting against mining in Bharatpur has intensified politics in Rajasthan, the State which is set to witness polls by the end of the next year.

While both the Congress and the BJP, in their respective tenures, allowed the mining industry to flourish in culturally demarcated Braj region, the incident has given an opportunity to the Opposition BJP to attack the Congress government for 'neglecting a long-pending public demand'. The seers, struggling to get the region mining-free since decades, are happy after the government placed an 'immediate ban' on quarrying in the mountains which has religious significance, but those involved and employed in the trade are miffed with 'appeasement politics'.

BJP's Rajasthan president Satish Punia attacked the Congress government over the monk's death and accused the Ministers and MLAs of having their own mines and hence 'personally favouring' the mining mafia lobby. "The government overlooked the issue of religious significance and failed to maintain law and order," he said.

Hard times: Workers are unemployed as the State government has stopped mining. • SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

The Opposition also sent a fact-finding committee to probe the monk's death and has demanded a Central Bureau of Investigation inquiry. The agitation against mining in Braj – spread in 15 districts of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh – was started by Ramesh Baba from Man Mandir (Mathura) in 2004. He succeeded when the State government, in 2008, declared hundreds of hectares of the revered area as 'forest'. But Aadi Badri and Kanachal mountains were left out.

As time passed, some seers felt that what had been done was not enough and Vijay Das was one of them. The agitation started again, but gained extraordinarily momentum in January 2021. On July 20, the 551st day of protest, Baba set himself ablaze. He passed away due to burn injuries in Delhi on July 23. The government said that the incident happened when it had already declared a ban on mining in the mountains.

Blamegame continues

"What Vijay Das did was unexpected and it had changed everything," said Radhakant Shastri, office-bearer of Braj Parvat Avam Paryawaran Sanrakshan Samiti. The Congress said that things would not have taken a turn for the worst had the BJP, in its previous tenures, taken a stand on the issue.

"The Opposition (BJP) leaders, who are accusing

SPECIAL

us, have never visited the protest site," said Swarnim Chaturvedi, spokesperson of Rajasthan Congress.

Amid the political chaos over the death of the monk, those involved in the agitation feel that despite the matter being environmentally and religiously important, political parties which ruled Rajasthan took it lightly. "The VHP and the RSS were in favour of getting Braj free from mining, but the BJP paid no heed to it. The Congress also didn't want to stop it but the U.P. elections spoiled the plans," said Nirmal Kumar, a resident of Mathura.

Workers left in the lurch

The sudden 'shutdown' of the mines has not just miffed the rich owners but also the poor workforce employed in the activity.

Haseena Begum from Bhuapur Garhi village, was employed with Encasa mines for over five years. The job had changed her life. She is one among the nearly 25,000 workers employed in over 40 'legal' mines.

IN BRIEF

Akali Dal dissolves organisational structure

CHANDIGARH

After facing a drubbing in the 2022 Punjab Assembly election, the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) on Thursday dissolved the party's entire organisational structure, in pursuance of the recommendations of its poll review committee. The structure was dissolved by SAD president Sukhbir Singh Badal. "All bodies the working committee, the office-bearers, and all other units as well as all wings of the party stand dissolved," said a statement.

2 pilots killed in MIG-21 crash near Barmer

NEW DELHI

Two Indian Air Force pilots were killed when their twin-seater MIG-21 trainer aircraft met with an accident near Barmer in Rajasthan on Thursday night. The IAF said the accident took place around 9.10 p.m. when it was airborne for a training sortie from Utarlai air base earlier in the evening. "Around 9.10 p.m., the aircraft met with an accident. Both pilots sustained fatal injuries. The IAF stands firmly with the bereaved families," the IAF said in a statement. PTI

5 houses used as 'terror hideouts' sealed in J&K

SRINAGAR

Five residential houses were sealed by the J&K police on Thursday for allegedly being "used by active militants in Srinagar". A police spokesman said the five houses were attached as per Section 2(g) and 25 of Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act "for being used for terrorism purpose". Two houses were sealed in Lawaypora, one each in Maloora, Batmaloo and Harwan. "These were used by active terrorists as hideouts to conspire, plan and execute terror acts in Srinagar district," the police said.

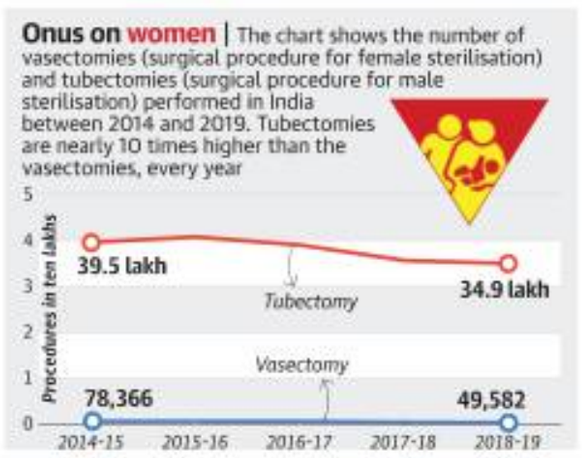
Govt. worried about teen pregnancies

Health Ministry says men's participation will be encouraged in family planning programme

BINDU SHAJAN PERAPPADAN
NEW DELHI

High teenage fertility in some areas remains a cause of concern in India even as the fertility rate has stabilised across the country, the Health Ministry said in its Family Planning Vision-2030 document released earlier this week.

It added that participation of men will be encouraged in the family planning programme and that lack of access to contraceptives had been identified as a priority challenge area.



"While multiple factors have been identified that explain low contraceptive use among married adolescents and young women, two most important factors are child marriage and teenage pregnancy. Over 118 districts reported high percentage of teenage pregnancies and are mostly concentrated in Bihar (19), West Bengal (15), Assam (13), Maharashtra (13), Jharkhand (10), Andhra Pradesh (7), and Tripura (4)," said the document.

Additionally, over 44% of the districts in India reported high percentage of women marrying before they reach the age of 18. These districts were in Bihar (17), West Bengal (8), Jharkhand (7), Assam (4), two each in Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Maharashtra. Coincidentally, these districts also experience low rates of modern contraceptive use.

Population in India

India is the second highest population in the world. The country's population is expected to continue to grow until mid-century (due to population momentum), however, the population growth will decline substantially, said the document. India's population has reached 136.3 crore (1.36 billion) and is expected to reach 147.9 crore (1.47 billion) by 2031 and further 152.2 crore (1.52 billion) by 2036, it added.

Also the adolescent population will reach 22.9 crore (229 million) by 2031 and further 22 crore (220 million) by 2036.

"The youth population in the age-group of 15-24 increased from 23.3 crore (233 million) in 2011 to 25.2 crore (252 million) in 2021 and will now decline to reach at 23.4 crore (234 million) in 2031 and further reach 22.9 crore (229 million) in 2036," said the document.

The government said male contraceptive methods were largely limited to condoms. Male sterilisation was at 0.3%. "The vision also included a plan to use the private sector for providing modern contraceptives. Private sector contributes 45% share of pills and 40% share of condoms. For other reversible contraceptives like injectables, the share is 30% and 24% for IUCD," said the report.

A priority area

The document notes that although there has been a steady decline in teenage childbearing, from 7.9% in the National Family Health Survey (NFHS-4) to 6.8% (in the NFHS-5), it remains a priority area that requires to be addressed, especially since India will continue to have one of the youngest populations in the world until 2030. It added that modern contraceptive use among married adolescents and young women, although increasing over time, has been rather low.

Minister promises better policies for migrants

The two-day ILO meet begins in Delhi

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Bhupendra Yadav

A two-day consultation on "Labour Migration: Advancing resilient, inclusive and sustainable policies and institutions in India, promoting decent work for all," organised by the International Labour Organisation (ILO), began here on Thursday.

It saw discussions, decent work and fair migration, and identifying overarching gender responsive policy perspectives and opportunities for improvement in social protection, fair and effective labour migration frameworks, occupational safety and health (OSH), skills, data, reintegration, etc.

The meeting will also discuss advancing roles of employers and trade unions in the post-pandemic scenario, and will explore engagement opportunities for civil society organisations, think-tanks, media, academia and other relevant stakeholders to support effective labour migration policy-making and governance.

Addressing the meet, Union Labour Minister Bhupender Yadav said, "A progressive framework for labour reforms has been adopted by the government which is in line with the discussions at ILO Conference in Geneva regarding a safe and healthy working environment and social security for every worker."

39 M.P. children gets jab with same syringe

The accused is on the run, says official

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
SAGAR

A vaccinator allegedly used the same syringe to administer anti-COVID-19 vaccine to 39 children at a private school in Madhya Pradesh's Sagar city, officials said on Thursday.

The parents of some of the children on Wednesday observed the vaccinator using the same syringe to inoculate the children and raised an alarm for the gross negligence on his part, they said. The incident took place at the Jain Higher Secondary School during a mega vaccination drive following which a First Information Report (FIR) was registered against the vaccinator, Jitendra Ahirwar, a district official said.

The 39 children were from Classes 9 to 12, an official said. After the parents protested, Sagar's in-charge Collector Kshitij Singhal sent district Chief Medical and Health Officer Dr. D.K. Goswami to examine the issue. Those present at the spot told Dr. Goswami that the vaccinator allegedly used the same syringe to vaccinate the children.

After the protest by parents, Mr. Ahirwar escaped from the spot and was not found when the CMHO inspected the school.

The accused had switched-off his mobile phone, Dr. Goswami said.

Centre mulls restoration of rail ticket concessions

We are working on modalities: official

YUTHIKA BHARGAVA
NEW DELHI

The government is planning to restore the concessions on railway tickets given to senior citizens and others after it faced severe criticism from people.

The decision comes close to the heels of the Railways informing the Parliament that it is not "desirable" to restore concessions on railway tickets given to senior citizens as the cost of granting concessions "weighs heavily" on Railways. "We are reviewing the decision on Railway concessions... all aspects including how big each segment is and how much does it cost Railways and then a way forward will be planned," a senior Railways official said.

It is also delibrating if such concessions can be given only for the general and sleeper classes or if the age limit can be tweaked upwards for senior citizen concession. Additionally, Railways is also looking at if concessions can be credited to the bank accounts of eligible travellers post the booking of tickets. Last week, Ashiwini Vaishnaw had informed Lok Sabha that passenger fare in most of the classes is very low, and passenger segment over Indian Railways has suffered recurring loss due to low fare and concessions to different categories of passengers.

SC warns against re-notifying poll process in Maharashtra

State had moved court for permission for civic election

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday cautioned the Maharashtra State Election Commission (SEC) against re-notifying the election process to 367 local bodies, where it has already commenced.

A Bench led by Justice A. M. Khanwilkar made it clear in no uncertain terms that the SEC "cannot and shall not" re-notify the election programme and even indicated that violation of its July 20 order would invite contempt proceedings.

The Supreme Court had on July 20 accepted the recommendations of the Banthia Commission providing 27% OBC reservations in local body elections. It had directed elections to the local bodies to be notified within the next fortnight.

It had made it clear that the OBC reservation policy, however, would not apply to the 367 local bodies where the election process had already begun by then.

"The State Election Commission cannot and shall not re-notify the election programme so as to provide reservation in respect of 367 local bodies referred to in the affidavit filed before this court on July 8, 2022," the Bench said.

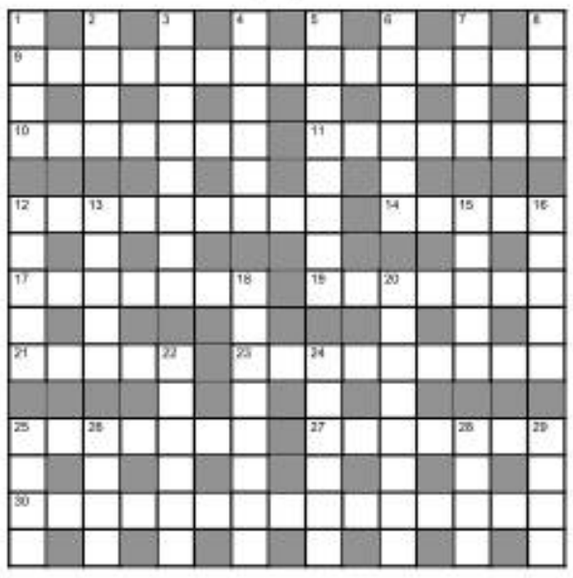
The apex court had quashed the SEC notification providing for 27% quota for OBCs in local bodies in early 2021. In December 2021, it ruled reservation for OBCs in local bodies will not be allowed unless the government fulfils the triple test laid down in the SC's 2010 order.

THE HINDU CROSSWORD + 13621

(set by Hypatia)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN



Across

9 Track him struggling with a host of characters in Indian comics (4,6,5)
10 Hysterical members ER keeps shackled (7)
11 One safeguarding kisser from rough chaps! (3-4)
12 Easy-going supporter, per Rev., is a person like you (6,3)
14 Party vessel contains American breakfast items for Chennaiites (5)
17 Mature crowd laid-back about defeat (7)
19 Sportsman permitted to wear two articles (7)
21 Episode in first lady's book (5)
23 Crawling quietly a spider swallows a fly (9)
25 Bet soft drink's returned to bar (7)
27 Healthy way of cooking problem animal (7)
30 Largest in geometrical shapes (6,9)

Down

1 Insult local boy (4)
2 Shock in husband's voice (4)
3 Grades student chosen randomly after start of exams (8)
4 State of Kardashian, perhaps unwell in broadcast earlier (6)
5 Indian address vacant with acting Bishop leaving for neighbouring country (3,5)
6 Pesky daughter abroad called on VOIP (6)
7 Finally Amma bought that maida flour to make chappatis (4)
8 Kind of hot (4)
12 Note line going through Engineer's legend (5)
13 Forget to keep nothing free (5)
15 Attack Japanese geisha houses in revolution (5)
16 Basically speak wilfully expressing abusive remarks (5)
18 Think of couple embracing change (8)
20 It's necessary to remain balanced in trendy hangout (3,5)
22 Long shirt crumpled after time (6)
24 Heavy idols fixed over top of temple (6)
25 Frequently pull old stump (4)
26 Consumes beef, pork etc. covering head (4)
28 Only uniform (4)
29 Start to socialize in boring network (4)

SUDOKU

2		7			3			
			6					
	3		4	2		5		
9			2				6	
		5	7		9	4		
	1				5			7
		1		9	8		4	
					6			
			5			7		9

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★☆☆

Solution to puzzle 13620

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

4	7	6	9	3	5	1	8	2
5	2	9	1	4	8	7	6	3
8	1	3	7	2	6	4	9	5
6	5	4	2	8	9	3	7	1
7	3	8	6	5	1	9	2	4
1	9	2	3	7	4	6	5	8
2	4	1	8	6	7	5	3	9
3	6	5	4	9	2	8	1	7
9	8	7	5	1	3	2	4	6

FAITH

Desire to worship

Thirumangai Azhvar describes the plight of the asuras after the death of Ravana. The asuras want to seek forgiveness from Rama and save their lives. They are not like Vibhishana, whose purpose in joining Rama's camp was not to save his life. His motive was a higher one. He wanted to do Saranagati – total surrender. In the case of the asuras, their concern is to ensure that they are not killed, said Akkarakkani Srinidhi in a discourse.

The asuras had been pushed into a tragic situation because of Ravana's sinful ways. The Sastras say that the body is given to an atma to help it to liberate itself. The very purpose of birth is to seek moksha. Our hands are given to us to do anjali to the Lord. Ravana had twenty hands. Imagine how many anjalis were possible for him at a time. Unfortunately, he never used his hands to do an anjali to the Paramatma. A devotee of the Lord, on the other hand, is never satisfied no matter how long he worships the Lord. He wants to worship the Lord more and more in every possible way.

Tirumangai Azhvar expresses such a sentiment beautifully when he says that the Lord likes Hiranykasipu better than him! Describing the killing of Hiranyakasipu by Narasimha, Vedanta Desika says that His two hands vied with each other in tearing up the wicked demon and saving Prahlada. How can a wicked demon like Hiranyakasipu be liked better by the Lord? Thirumangai Azhvar explains why Hiranyakasipu was lucky. He had the boon of lying on the Lord's lap, a boon which he (Thirumangai Azhvar) did not have! A devotee will be indifferent to worldly pleasures, but will love to worship the Lord. But in Ravana's case the opposite was true. He did not control his senses, and as a result he paid little attention to the Lord. His mind was drawn to sinful activities.

Sri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister

Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board

Sri Basavaraj S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister

Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurated the newly constructed ground level water reservoir.

One year of Impressive Achievements

Cauvery Water Supply Project 5th Stage :

- Administrative approval given for the 5th Stage of Cauvery Project at an estimated cost of Rs 5550 crore with financial assistance from JICA.
- For providing drinking water to the newly added 110 villages to BBMP, Bengaluru city gets 775 million liters of additional water every day. In the first phase 500 million liters per day and in the second phase 275 million liters per day will be supplied.
- A raw water treatment plant with a capcity of 810 million litres per day, huge pipelines and water reservoirs are under construction.

Drinking water and sewerage facility for 110 villages :

The drinking water scheme and unaccounted water control scheme for 110 newly added villages to BBMP have been approved at a cost of Rs 1500 crore and 90 percent work is completed. The work of sewerage project at an estimated cost of Rs 1000 crore is under progress. With the financial assistance from JICA, the work of laying of a 240 km of sub-main drainage pipe and trunk sewer has been divided into three packages in areas falling under 110 villages of RR Nagara and Dasarahalli Zone, Mahadevapura and Bommanahalli Zone and Byatarayanapura zone at a cost of Rs 1014 crore is in progress. The work of construction of 14 Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) and 8 Intermediate Sewerage Pumping Stations (ISPS) were taken up in July 2021 and the works are in progress.

Megacity Revolving Project :

- In Vrishbhavathi Valley 150MLD capacity waste water treatment plant works taken up at a cost of Rs.470.93 crore. The liquid stream portion of this plant was completed during April 2022 and commissioned. The sludge stream portion of this plant is under progress and proposed to be completed by end of 2022.
- In Koramangala and Challaghatta valley 150MLD capacity waste water treatment plant works taken up at a cost of Rs.297.37 crore. The liquid stream portion of this plant was completed during March 2021 and commissioned. The sludge stream portion of this plant is under progress and proposed to be completed by end of 2022.
- In Hebbal valley 100MLD capacity waste water treatment plant works taken up at a cost of Rs.360.77 crore. The work of this plant was completed in August 2021 and commissioned.
- A 3 million litre capacity waste treatment plant has been taken up in Hesaraghatta with grants from Government of Karnataka and planned to complete by the end of 2022.

First phase of rejuvenation of Thippagondanahalli reservoir :

Rejuvenation works of Thippagondanahalli reservoir and clean water purification plants to supply Yettinahole water to Thippagondanahalli reservoir and to Bengaluru are currently in progress.

People-friendly programmes :

- **New connection service of water and sewerage :** The consumer's demand letter will be issued in a timely manner and payment and sanction through online.
- **Centralised billing and recovery system :** Arrangements have been made for Online system to pay the bill to customers and get details of six months' water usage certificate and demand letter.
- **Live phone-in program with the President :** For redressal of public grievances, live phone in programme from 9.00 am to 10.30 am on the first and fifth Saturdays of every month
- **Free Cauvery Drinking Water :** 10000 litres of free water will be supplied every month to approximately 1.03 lakh families in slums and Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe colonies in the city.
- **Bill Payments :** Arrangements have been made to pay the bills by using 74 Kiosk machines at Bengaluru One, and through ECS, BBPS, Karnataka Mobile App and PayTM.

Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board
Cauvery Bhavan, K.G Road, Bengaluru-560009. 24x4 Helpline No. 1916
8762228888, Email : chairman@bwssb.gov.in
Website: https://bwssb.karnataka.gov.in

To safeguard public property and to abjure violence is the Fundamental Duty of every Indian.

Use Recycled Water Save Bengaluru

Sri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister

Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited

THE PRIDE OF BENGALURU

Sri Basavaraj S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister

BMRCL Achievements in Last One Year

- The Western Extension from Mysore Road to Kengeri under Phase-2 project of 7.53 kms was completed and opened for public on 29.08.2021. With this the operational network of BMRCL has increased to 56 Kms.
- Under Phase-2, the first TBM Machine, after completing 855 m of tunnelling from Cantonment station to Shivajinagar made a breakthrough which was witnessed by Hon'ble CM on 22.09.2021.

Phase-2 :

- For Phase-2, cumulative progress achieved is 48.31 kms, which is 78.70%. The progress achieved during the last one year is 10.30 kms, which is 16.77 %.
- Out of the total of 21039.78 meters of tunnelling, 10638.1 metres has been completed during the last one year which is 50.56 %.

Phase-2A & 2B :

- The Civil works from Central Silk Board to K.R. Puram and to Kempegowda International Airport has been awarded in packages for the total length of 58.19 kms with 30 stations.
- The physical progress achieved during the last one year is 18%.
- The viaduct length of 114 meters is launched during the last one year.

Phase-3A :

- The preliminary DPR for Phase-3 from J.P. Nagar 4th Phase to Kempapura along the ORR of 32 Kms and Hosahalli Metro Station to Kadabagere of 13 kms with an estimated cost of Rs 10,435 Crore has been submitted by M/s RITES, which is under scrutiny by BMRCL.

1 Year

OF REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENTS

BMRCL Achievements in Last One Year

- Final DPR will be submitted to the Government of Karnataka shortly for approval and thereafter it will be forwarded to Government of India for approval.

Phase-3B :

- As announced in the state Budget 2022-23, a new line has been proposed from Sarjapura to Hebbal via Mekhri Circle, Town Hall, St. John's Hospital and Carmelaram for a length of 37 Kms, at an estimated cost of Rs 15,000 Crore, for which tenders were called for preparation of DPR. The DPR work will be entrusted shortly.

Funds Released :

- An amount of Rs 3,792.13 Crore has been released from Government of Karnataka for the BMRCL Project during the period (July 2021 to June 2022). During the period expenditure incurred is Rs 5,032.13 Crore.

Operational Highlights:

- Prior to Covid-19, highest boarding recorded per day was 6.15 Lakh on 25.10.2019.
- Highest Revenue of the Day was Rs. 1,66,62,707/- on 02.03.2020.
- After Covid-19 wave-2, the average ridership is 4.60 Lakh passengers per day and highest boarding achieved per day was 5.19 Lakh on 23.07.2022.
- Punctuality has been 99.5%.
- Faultless Operations.

To safeguard public property and to abjure violence is the Fundamental Duty of every Indian.

Shri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister

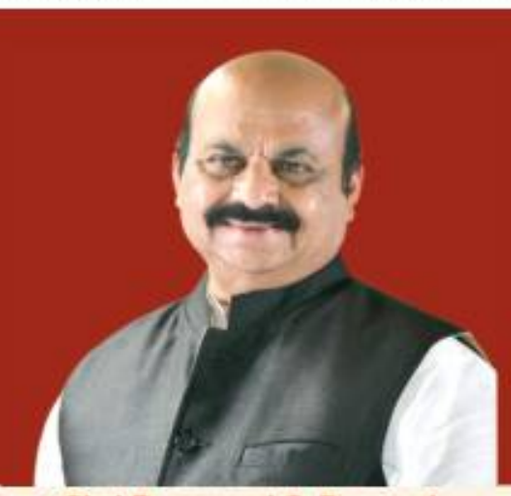
Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav

NAVA KARNATAKA
FOR NAVA BHARATH

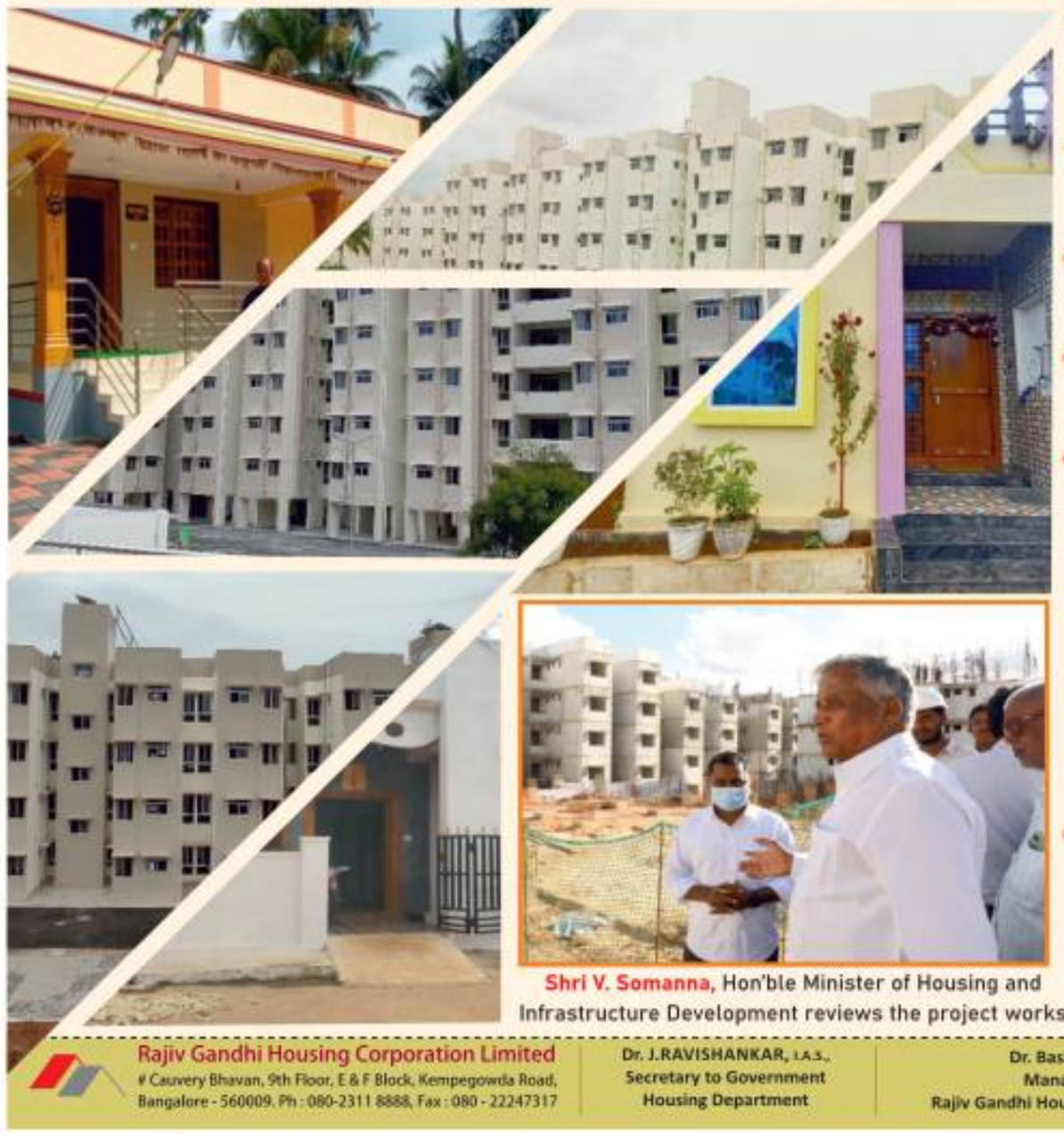
HOUSING DEPARTMENT

Rajiv Gandhi Housing Corporation Limited

1 Year of Developmental Era



Shri Basavaraj S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister



Shri V. Somanna, Hon'ble Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development reviews the project works

- A target of 5 lakh new houses under various housing schemes has been sanctioned for the year 2021-22 and work orders have already been issued for 1.50 lakh houses.
- A total of 3.56 lakh houses have been completed so far in the last 3 years and a total grant of Rs 6,034 crore has been released.
- A total of 1.03 lakh houses have been completed in the last one year and a grant of Rs 2,218 crore has been released.
- 2,343 sites have been allotted in the last one year. Besides, 5,565 acres of land has been reserved and steps have been taken to allot around 1.60 lakh sites
- P M Awas Yojana (Rural)
  - As per a survey conducted in 2018 in the state, a total of 25.40 lakh homeless/landless persons have been approved from Central Government. This will benefit more than 25 lakh homeless people in the state.
  - For the year 2021-22, the Centre has allocated a target of 1.41 lakh houses to the state.
  - The subsidy given to scheduled caste and scheduled tribe beneficiaries has been increased from Rs 1.50 lakh to Rs 1.75 lakh.
- P M Awas Yojana (Urban)
  - 25,941 houses have been approved by the Central Government and 10,926 houses have been completed in the last one year.
  - Construction of 11,546 houses by Rajiv Gandhi Housing Corporation and 97,134 houses by Karnataka Slum Development Board under AHP unit in the limits of local bodies and works have been commenced.
- Chief Minister's 1 lakh multi-storeyed Bengaluru Housing Scheme:
  - Work on 48,498 houses been commenced in 413 acres of land. Of these around 2,000 houses have been completed and 10,000 houses are nearing completion.
  - Already 43,735 Online applications have been received and 5,744 applicants have chosen their houses.
- Rehabilitation housing scheme for flood-affected
  An amount of Rs. 341.56 crore have been released to 53,636 houses affected by floods during 2021-22.
- Steps have been taken to allot 69,000 houses under Devaraj Urs Housing Scheme to provide housing nomadic/semi-nomadic/Kadugolla/Koraga/Jenukuruba community etc.
- Complete exemption from mortgage of sites of housing beneficiaries: The rule of mortgaging to the government the houses/sites of the beneficiaries who have been constructed/to be constructed on their own site with subsidy under housing schemes for a period of 10 years has been abolished.
- The annual income limit for selection for beneficiaries under housing schemes has been increased from Rs 32,000 to Rs 1.20 lakh in rural areas and from Rs 87,600 to Rs 2 lakh in urban areas.

Rajiv Gandhi Housing Corporation Limited
Cauvery Bhavan, 9th Floor, E & F Block, Kempegowda Road, Bangalore - 560009. Ph : 080-2311 8888, Fax : 080 - 22247317

Dr. J.RAVISHANKAR, I.A.S.,
Secretary to Government
Housing Department

Dr. Basavaraju S. I.A.S.,
Managing Director
Rajiv Gandhi Housing Corporation Limited

WEAR A MASK | STAY SAFE | STAY HEALTHY

To safeguard public property and to abjure violence is the Fundamental Duty of every Indian.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE

Office of the Executive Engineer, Kengeri Division, 2nd Main Road, Jagajyothi Layout, Bengaluru.

No: EE/Ken/Tend/07/2022-23 Date: 28-07-2022

TENDER POSTPONEMENT NOTIFICATION

Ref: 1) This Office Tender Notification No: **EE/Ken/Tend/07/2022-23 Dated: 24-06-2022.**

With reference to the above, Tender invited vide ref (1) above is **Postponed Due to Technical Reasons. Dates of tender is modified as follows.**

1) Tender Documents Downloaded through e-Portal: **29-07-2022, 4.00 PM. 2)** Any Queries: **06-08-2022 upto 4.00 PM. 3)** Last Date for Submission of Tenders: **08-08-2022 upto 4.00 PM. 4)** Opening of Bid: **10-08-2022 at 4.00 PM.** Other things remain unchanged.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Kengeri Division, BBMP.

COVID-19. DO NOT PANIC, BE AWARE
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

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BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

TENDER NOTIFICATION (3rd Call)
(Only Through e-Procurement Portal)

BWSSB invites tenders from Registered Agencies for the following work.

Office of the Chief Engineer (Project)
3rd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560 009

Sl. No.	Division	IFT Number	Amount put to tender / EMD (in Rs.)	Last Date & time for Submission of Tender	Date & time for Opening of Tender
1	Central Stores	BWSSB(EE)(CSn)/AEE/AE/STR/ 317/2022-23 Date: 20.07.2022	Rs.76,91,293/- / Rs.1,53,825/-	20.08.2022 before 4.00 pm	23.08.2022 at 12.00 Noon

The details regarding participation in the e-procurement portal process can be obtained by logging on to **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.** For further details contact the undersigned office during working hours.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer (Central Stores)

DIPR/CP/MIA/1544/2022-23

STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19, NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE.
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

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BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE

Office of the Executive Engineer - Traffic Engineering Cell Division, Ground Floor, #09, Annexe-3 Building, BBMP Head Office, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560002.

No: EE/TEC/TEND/07/2022-23 Date: 28-07-2022

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT) - (SHORT TERM)
(Two Cover Tender) (Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only)

The Executive Engineer - Traffic Engineering Cell Division, BBMP, Bengaluru invites tenders from eligible Tenderers for the Construction of work detailed below.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Approx. Amount Put to Tender (Rs. in Lakhs)	EMD Amount (in Rs.)
1	Construction of additional vent on Bellary Road to Facilitate U-Turn for Sanjayanagar Main Road by utilization of available Pre-Cast Elements.	251.46	4,00,000/-

Calendar of Events: 1) The tender document can be downloaded from the GOK e-Procurement Website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in from 29-07-2022. 2)** Date for Receipt of Queries: **04-08-2022. 3)** Date of Pre Bid Meeting on **04-08-2022 at 15.30 Hrs. 4)** Last Date for Uploading the Filled Proposals is **12-08-2022 upto 16.00 Hrs. 5)** Date of Opening of Technical Proposals is **16-08-2022 at 11.30 Hrs.** Further details can be had from the above office.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Traffic Engineering Cell Division-RI, BBMP.

PAY DEVELOPMENT CHARGES, HELP TO DEVELOP BENGALURU
COVID-19. DO NOT PANIC, BE AWARE
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

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BANGALORE URBAN ZILLA PANCHAYATH

Office of the Executive Engineer, Panchayath Raj Engineering Division, First Floor, Zilla Panchayat Building, S. Kariyappa Road, Banashankari, Bengaluru - 560070.

No: EE/PRED/BNG(U)/TND/AE-3/17/2022-23 Dated: 28-07-2022

E-PROCUREMENT SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (Two Cover System)

Tenders are invited through e-Procurement by the Executive Engineer, P.R.E.D. Bangalore Urban, For Under 5054 Grants Works. The work details can be obtained from the e-Procurement Website. The Tender Documents can be obtained and Submitted **on or before 05-08-2022 upto 4.00 PM.** Further details can be obtained from Website at **http://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** or contact this office during office working hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Panchayath Raj Engineering Division,
Bangalore Urban Dist, Bangalore.

DIPR/CP/1541/Advrtn/2022-23

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ಕೊಪ್ಪಳ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಗಳ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ (ರಿ), ಕೊಪ್ಪಳ
KOPPAL INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES (R), KOPPAL

ನೋಂದಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:KOL-S243-2012-13 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 15-03-2013
(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರಕಾರದ ಸ್ವಾಯತ್ತ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ)

Website : www.kimskoppal.karnataka.gov.in email :directorkimskoppal@gmail.com
Office : 08539 225522 Office : 08539-225523

No: KIMS/KOPPAL/EST-1/2022-23/303 Date: 27.07.2022

NOTIFICATION

Application are invited from the eligible candidates for the post of Dean Cum Director, Koppal Institute of Medical Sciences, Koppal as per the Government order: MED 288 MPF 2022 Dt: 12-07-2022. The minimum educational qualification and eligibility criteria for the Dean Cum Director post shall be as per the NMC/MCI Norms and bye-laws of the Koppal Institute of Medical Sciences, Koppal.

Eligibility Criteria:-

1. The candidate shall be selected from the amongst the Professors of Koppal Institute of Medical sciences, Koppal. 2. The candidate should possess the recognized post graduate Medical qualification from NMC/MCI recognized Medial College / Institution. The candidate should have 10 years of teaching experience as Professor / Associate Professor/reader in a medical college / intuitions, out of which minimum 05 years experience as Professor. 3. Candidates having administrative experience either as Medical Superintendent or as the Head of the Department will be given preference. 4. Maximum upper age limited shall be two years earlier to superannuation. i.e., should not have completed 58 years as on the last date for submission of application. 5. Candidates Probationary period must have been declared. 6. Dean Cum Director post recruitment shall be made as per the NMC/MCI norms and bye-laws of Koppal Institute of Medical Sciences, Koppal.

Interview date and venue will be intimated later to the candidates.

Method of selection:- The method of selection shall be on basis of merit. Five senior most Professors shall be short listed as per the cadre wise seniority by the Governing Council. The merit is assessed on the basis of performance of the candidates and the marks obtained in the interview, as prescribed in Bye-law.

Pay scale:- Rs.1,44,200-2,18,200 with applicable allowances as per AICTE scale.

Period of appointment:- Maximum four years from the date of appointment or as per bye-laws of Koppal Institute of Medical Sciences, Koppal or until further government order whichever is earlier .

Instructions :- Candidates applying for the post of the Dean Cum Director shall submit the application in the prescribed format which can be downloaded from the website of Koppal Institute of Medical Sciences Koppal https://kimskoppal.karanataka.gov.in. The filled up application form should be submitted by the register post with acknowledge due or by hand with a (non-refundable) DD for Rs.5000/-drawn in favor of **"Director Koppal Institute of Medical Sciences, Koppal"** along with relevant supporting documents to Chief Administrative Officer, Kims, Koppal.

Last date for submission of application :- **12-08-2022 before 5:00 pm.**

Sd/- **Chief administrative officer**
Koppal Institute of medical sciences
Koppal

DIPR/KOPPAL/267/2022-23/DESIGNATED PUBLICITY

MANDYA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES
MANDYA -571 401

(Autonomous Medical Institution, Government of Karnataka)
Phone & Fax : 08232-231001, Director : 08232-222086, CAO : 08232-231197, FA : 08232-401198
E.Mail Address:mimsmandya@gmail.com
No: MIMS/P.G/ 04/ 2022-23 Dated:21.07.2022

INTERVIEW NOTIFICATION FOR POST DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP COURSE – EXTENSION OF DATES

Sl. No. : 01. Course : Dermatosurgery Fellowship. Qualification : Dermatology MD/ DNB/Diploma. No. of seats : 02.

Interested Candidates are requested to attend the Interview along with their Bio-Data and copies of relevant certificates attested by a Gazetted Officer at the Office of the Director, MIMS, Mandya on **16.08.2022.at 10-00 AM.** Last date of sending filled application is **10.08.2022.** More details may be obtained from the Website:www.mimsmandya.org

Sd/-Director,
Mandya institute of medical sciences, Mandya

DIPR/AD-MDY/MC&A/244/2022-23

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE

Office of the Executive Engineer-6, Solid Waste Management, 4th Floor, Annex Building-3, N.R. Square, Bengaluru-560 002

No.: BBMP/EE-6/SWM/TEND/08/2022-23 Date: 27.07.2022

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Executive Engineer-(SWM), invites tenders form eligible agencies / firms / contractors for the works detailed in the table below.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Approx. Amount put to tender (Rs. Lakhs)	EMD (in Rs.)
1	Conducting programs on Radio FM's with Senior officers of BBMP to create awareness on Solid Waste Management in BBMP.	25.00	50,000/-
2	Display of advertisements on BMTC buses back side for plastic ban and waste segregation at sources and other SWM awareness program.	25.00	50,000/-
3	Creation of awareness through display of advertisements on Bus queue shelters in BBMP limits regarding Solid Waste Management in BBMP.	410.00	6,15,000/- (Rs. 1.00 lakhs through e-procurement. Balance in the form of B.G.)

Calender of Events: (1) Tender documents may be downloaded from e-procurement portal of the Government of Karnataka from **30.07.2022, 4:00 p.m.** onwards. **(2)** Date of Receipt of Queries: **04.08.2022** upto **4:00 p.m. (3)** Date of Pre bid meeting is on **05.08.2022** at **3:00 p.m.** in the office of the Chief Engineer, SWM, 4th Floor, Annexure-3, BBMP Complex, N.R. Square. **(4)** Last Date for uploading the filled Proposals is **11.08.2022** upto **4:30 p.m. (5)** Date of opening of Technical Proposals is **13.08.2022** after **4:00 p.m. (6)** Date of opening of Financial Proposal after approval of Technical Proposals through e-Procurement. Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours or website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/-, Executive Engineer-6, Solid Waste Management, BBMP

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KARNATAKA ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

No. 16 C-1, Miller Tank Bed Area, Vasanthanagara, Bengaluru-560 052. Ph: 22268677/78/79
Fax: 080-22268667 e-mail : kerc-ka@nic.in
website:https://karunadu.karnataka.gov.in/kerc

No.: KERC/17/RoE/1008/DDD/22-23/565, Bengaluru Date: 28.07.2022

NOTICE

Sub: Draft Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission (Recovery of Expenditure for Supply of Electricity) (Twelfth Amendment) Regulations, 2022.

The draft amendment to the clause on the above subject was published in the Official Gazette of Karnataka on 25.07.2022 and the same is also made available in the KERC's website **www.kerc.karnataka.gov.in**

The interested persons may file their comments/views/suggestions/ objections if any, on the above draft Recovery of Expenditure to the Secretary, KERC **on or before 10th August 2022.**

Sd/- Secretary, KERC, Bengaluru

Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of India Enterprise)

Inviting Expression of Interest (EOI) for: Providing land on lease to set up Aviation Fuelling Station in the vicinity of Airport

BPCL desires to setup Aviation Fuelling Station (AFS) & Refuelling Operations at Belagavi (Karnataka) & Hubbali (Karnataka) and requires land on lease for a minimum period of 10 years.

Sealed bids are invited offering suitable land on lease as per the terms & conditions document published on BPCL website **https://www.bharatpetroleum.in/Bharat-Petroleum-For/Business-Associates/AFS.aspx**

Bid document will be available web link from **29.07.2022 (10.00 AM)** to **28.08.2022 @ 3.30 PM.**

Selection of the site is solely at BPCL's discretion. The completed offers should be submitted to the below mentioned office on or before by **29.08.2022 @ 3.30PM.**

Bids can be dropped personally at the given address, or it can be sent through Registered Post/Speed Post:

AVIATION MANAGER (SOUTH)
Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited,
Aviation – Southern Region, No#1, Ranganathan Gardens
Off 11th Main Road, Post Box No.1212 & 1213
Anna Nagar (East), Chennai, Tamilnadu - 600040
(044 26142002 / 2003 / 2001)

Energising Lives, Energising Naya Bharat

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE

Office of the Executive Engineer, Projects Central-08 Division, #301, 3rd Floorr, Annexe-2 Building, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560 002

No.EE/P.C-8/TEND/02/2022-23 Date:28.07.2022

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)
(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only)

The Executive Engineer, Projects-Central-08 Division, invites tenders from eligible Tenderers for the works detailed in the table below:

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Approx. Amount put to tender (Rs. in Crores)	EMD (Rs. in Lakhs)
1	Balance works of White Topping Roads taken up under Phase-2, Package-3.	17.17	17.50

1) Tender documents may be downloaded from e-procurement website **2)** Pre-bid Meeting: **04.08.2022 at 04.00 p.m. 3)** Last date for submission of bids: **08.08.2022 upto 05.30 p.m. 4)** Date of opening of technical bids: **10.08.2022 at 04.00 p.m.** Further details can be obtained from office of the undersigned or GoK e-procurement website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** or e-Procurement Helpdesk : 080-46010000.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Project Central-08 Division.

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Futile to look beyond the United States for gold

India-B promises fireworks in the biggest-ever Chess Olympiad; Carlsen returns to lead Norway's campaign

RAKESH RAO
MAMALLAPURAM

Four months after hurriedly getting the hosting rights, India is finally ready for the biggest-ever Chess Olympiad.

With a record number of 186 nations, the standout novelty will be the never-before simultaneous live broadcast from around 700 boards, enhanced by some innovative use of technology at this UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Following the grand Opening Ceremony at Chennai's Nehru Stadium, the onboard action will commence on Friday afternoon at the two sprawling halls of Four Points by Sheraton here.

Smooth path

As things stand, it appears futile to look beyond the USA for the gold medal. With four of its five players among the top-14 in the world, Russia and China away, in addition to absence of the French team members Alireza Firouzja and Maxime Vachier-Lagrave – rated second and ninth in the world – the path to USA's seventh gold looks rather smooth.

USA's lowest-ranked player Shankland matches the rating of second seed India's top-ranked P. Harikrishna. This should help put things into perspective when considering the host's gold-winning prospects.

Trusted campaigner Vidit Gujrathi, an in-form teenager Arjun Erigaisi, a steady S.L. Narayanan and the vastly experienced K. Sasikiran are the other members of the team that promises to perform to its strength.

Among India's three entries, the 'B' team has already raised the expectations of the chess world. Teen talents D. Gukesh, Nihal Sarin, R. Praggnanandhaa and Raunaq Sadhwani in the company of a more experienced B. Adhiban pose a serious threat to the more favoured medal-contenders.

Carlsen returns to head Norway's campaign after six years. When he last played the Olympiad in 2016, 12th seeded Norway finished a creditable fifth, one place behind India. This year, it has the best chance of being on the podium.

The top-5 teams:

1. **USA (average rating 2771):** Fabiano Caruana (2783), Wesley So (2773), Levon Aronian (2775), Leinier Dominguez Perez (2754) and Sam Shankland (2720).

2. **India-A (2696):** P. Harikrishna (2720), Vidit Gujrathi (2714), Arjun Erigaisi (2689), S.L. Narayanan (2659) and K. Sasikiran (2638).

3. **Norway (2692):** Magnus Carlsen (2864), Aryan Tari (2672), Jon Ludvig Hammer (2638), Johan-Sebastian Christiansen (2593) and Olsen Urkedal Forde Olav (2555).

4. **Spain (2687):** Francisco Vallejo Pons (2702), Alexie Shirov (2704), David Anton (2667), Jaime Santos Latasa (2675) and Eduardo Iturrizaga Bonelli (2611).

5. **Poland (2683):** Jan-Krzysztof Duda (2750), Radoslaw Wojtaszek (2708), Kacper Piorun (2636), Wojciech Moranda (2636) and Mateusz Bartel (2597).

Opening theory | With 186 nations participating, the 44th Chess Olympiad which began on Thursday, is the biggest-ever in the tournament's history in terms of the number of participating countries. With young Indian talents like D. Gukesh & R. Praggnanandhaa and experienced players such as K. Humpy & P. Harikrishna in the mix, India's contigent is up for the challenge. A look at the countries seeded at the top, their highest-rated player and the list of players representing India

1. In 2014, India put forth its best performance in the 41st Chess Olympiad, winning the bronze medal

2. **Best performance by an Indian player (men) in an Olympiad:** Dibyendu Barua won the gold in the 1990 Chess Olympiad with a tally of 8.5 points out of 11 undefeated games

3. **Best performance by an Indian player (women) in an Olympiad:** Padmini Rout won the gold in the 2014 Chess Olympiad with a tally of 7.5 points out of eight undefeated games

India's contingent | The tables list the men's and women's teams from India participating in the tournament. The number in the brackets denote their seed

Men: India A (2)

Players	Latest*
P. Harikrishna	2720
Vidit Gujrathi	2714
Arjun Erigaisi	2689
S. L. Narayanan	2659
K. Sasikiran	2638

Men: India B (11)

Players	Latest*
Gukesh D.	2684
Nihal Sarin	2651
Praggnanandhaa	2648
B. Adhiban	2598
Raunak Sadhwani	2611

Men: India C (16)

Players	Latest*
Surya Ganguly	2608
S.P. Sethuraman	2623
Abhijeet Gupta	2627
M. Karthikeyan	2613
Abhimanyu Puranik	2612

Women: India A (1)

Players	Latest*
Humpy Koneru	2586
D. Harika	2517
R. Vaishali	2442
Tania Sachdev	2399
Bhakti Kulkarni	2373

Women: India B (11)

Players	Latest*
Vantika Agrawal	2371
Padmini Rout	2374
Soumya Swaminathan	2335
Gomes Mary Ann	2324
Divya Deshmukh	2319

Women: India C (16)

Players	Latest*
K. Eesha	2339
P.V. Nandhidhaa	2312
M.S. Varshini	2312
Pratyusha B.	2310
Vishwa Vasnawala	2305

*Latest rating
Source: Chess-Results.com

Top 5 nations | The table lists the countries seeded at the top and their highest-rated player

MEN

Seed	Country	Avg.	Highest rated	Rating *
1	U.S.	2771	F. Caruana	2783
2	India A	2696	P. Harikrishna	2720
3	Norway	2692	M. Carlsen	2864
4	Spain	2687	F. Vallejo Pons	2702
5	Poland	2683	J. K. Duda	2750

WOMEN

Seed	Country	Avg.	Highest rated	Rating *
1	India A	2486	K. Humpy	2586
2	Ukraine	2478	M. Muzychuk	2540
3	Georgia	2475	N. Dzagnidze	2531
4	Poland	2423	A. Kashlinskaya	2505
5	France	2400	M. Sebag	2447

Preparing the field: A volunteer sets a timer at the playing area ahead of the 44th Chess Olympiad. • AFP

CASAGRAND
building aspirations

India women begin their hunt for a first Olympiad medal

RAKESH RAO
MAMALLAPURAM

Looking for its first medal at the women's Chess Olympiad, India is cautiously optimistic of living up to the reputation of being the top seed.

Being the favourite brings a fine feeling but there is very little that separates India from former champions Ukraine and Georgia, seeded two and three.

Effectively, with D. Harika expected to join the action only in key encounters, the other team members are prepared to play most matches without her. As a result, for the better part, the top seed will be playing with the rating strength of the third-best team.

What gives India its best chance to win the elusive medal is the absence of Russia and defending champion China.

A late addition of a third team following the withdrawal of Turkmenistan means India has three teams among the top 16 seeds.

The team comprising K. Humpy, Harika, debutant R. Vaishali, Tania Sachdev and Bhakti Kulkarni has the strength to go all the way. Vaishali could well provide the cutting edge the team needs on the third board in crucial encounters.

Ukraine and Georgia are closely matched and have the experience of being on top of the podium even in the presence of powerhouses Russia and China.

Winner in 2016, Ukraine lost out to champion China on tie-breaker for a silver in 2018. Former women's World champion Mariya Muzychuk, her sister Anna, the strongest member of the squad, and Anna Ushenina, another former World champion, are in the line-up.

Four-time winner Georgia, too, should be considered a co-favourite for the title.

Cutting edge: Vaishali and Bhakti, under Kunte's guidance, will be eager to play their part. • FILE PHOTO: B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

Top-5 teams:

1. **India-A (average rating 2486):** K. Humpy (2586), D. Harika (2517), R. Vaishali (2442), Tania Sachdev (2399) and Bhakti Kulkarni (2373).

2. **Ukraine (2478):** Mariya Muzychuk (2540), Anna Muzychuk (2529), Anna Ushenina (2423), Yuliia Osmak (2420) and Nataliya Buksa (2401).

3. **Georgia (2475):** Nana Dzagnidze (2531), Lela Javakhishvili (2476), Nino Batsiashvili (2466), Meri Arabnidze (2426) and Salome Melia (2384).

4. **Poland (2423):** Alina Kashlinskaya (2505), Monika Socko (2416), Oliwia Kiolbasa (2376), Maria Malicka (2393) and Mchalina Rudzinska (2315).

5. **France (2400):** Marie Sebag (2447), Sophie Millet (2396), Pauline Guichard (2379), Anastasia Savina (2377) and Andreea Navrotescu (2373).

Olympiad will create a positive mood: Dvorkovich

FIDE president says Anand's nomination has enhanced the image of the body

Keen contest: FIDE president Dvorkovich, seen with AICF president Sanjay Kapoor, says the election to the body will be the most competitive in the sport's history • R. RAVINDRAN

K. KEERTHIVASAN
MAMALLAPURAM

Arkady Dvorkovich is perceived to be the front-runner for getting re-elected as the president at the FIDE General assembly and elections scheduled here on August 7.

The nomination of five-time World champion Viswanathan Anand as deputy president in Dvorkovich's team has enhanced the image of FIDE.

Most competitive

The 50-year-old Russian, who said the elections will be the most competitive one in the sport's history, didn't hide his admiration for the chess legend.

"The Olympiad is a huge festival and not just a sports competition. It will create a positive mood, a positive atmosphere for the FIDE Congress and all the delegates. The election will be the most competitive one in sport's history.

"We are proud to have Anand as the deputy president. He is a great personality, a long-time friend. He is extremely popular all around the world. Anand's contribution has been acknowledged and recognised by one and all," said Dvorkovich at a press conference here on Thursday.

Dvorkovich said he was happy to see the biggest number of women's teams (162) in the Olympiad beginning on Friday.

The All India Chess Federation's president Sanjay Kapoor lauded the commitment of D. Harika, who is competing despite being pregnant. "D. Harika is going to deliver a baby in two weeks time and the level of commitment she has shown is just amazing," he said.

Judit Polgar, former World women's No.1, said she could feel the excitement surrounding the Olympiad.

"I am very happy to be in India in this Olympic village. I can feel it every second and every minute. I see how it has unfolded for the first round.

Amazed at interest

"This is my 12th Olympiad [as a player, captain and commentator]. I started when I was 12 years old, winning the gold medal for Hungary on the first two occasions.

"I played eight times in the Open section and I was the captain and this time as a commentator. It's amazing to see the interest and passion of the people here and in the organising team, which definitely makes this event very special," she said.

AICF secretary Bharat Singh Chauhan gave credit to both the State and Union Governments for their contribution to the Olympiad.

"Both the Governments are complementing each other," he said.

Shooting could get another shot

ISSF to present its case before the CGF in September

The target: The Indians will be hoping to have shooting back in the Commonwealth Games.

SANTADEEP DEY
BIRMINGHAM

The sport of shooting, excluded from the 2022 Commonwealth Games, also didn't make it to the initial list of the 16 disciplines finalised for the 2026 edition in the Australian state of Victoria.

The Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF), however, maintains it is still open to addition of events. That would provide some relief to the Indian shooting fraternity, which has been highly successful in the Friendly Games over the years. 135 of India's 503 at CWG have come from shooting. Pistol shooter Jaspal Rana still remains the most decorated Indian athlete at the quadrennial showpiece, with 15 medals across – including nine golds.

Katie Sadleir, chief executive officer of the CGF, addressing the media ahead of Thursday's opening ceremony in Birmingham, said: "Currently there is an Expression of Interest (EOI) that's out there, where the international federations that are currently not on the programme have been invited to put forward a proposal for consideration. Shooting is definitely on the case.

"And I know there's a significant amount of social media that's going on in Australia (sic). Plus, the international federation (ISSF) has made it very clear they are going to put forward a very strong case for consideration. It will come to the CGF for consideration in September with the idea that we'll have the final program for 2026 announced by the end of the year."

Anil Khanna, acting-president of the Indian Olympic Association and IOA treasurer Anandeshwar Panday met CGF president Dame Louise Martin on Tuesday during the CGF's Annual General Meeting, asking for shooting and wrestling's inclusion in the final list of sports.

India's chief rifle coach Joydeep Karmakar is hopeful of a positive outcome. "It is a welcome thing. If it really happens, that is." We have been hearing about this (for some time) though. There is a first list though, and it only means there will be a second list.

"It is good that the ISSF, IOA and NRAI (National Rifle Association of India) are working on it. I am sure that the ISSF will have a say in this. By November, hopefully, we will have good news."

TOP INDIAN PICKS

A look at some of the Indian players/teams who will be in action on Friday:

Badminton: Mixed team event (qualifying round 1): vs. Pakistan, 6.30 p.m.

Boxing: Men: Light welter (round-of-32): Shiva Thapa vs. Suleman Baloch, 5 p.m.

Cricket: Women (Group A): vs. Australia, 3.30 p.m.

Gymnastics: Artistic: Men's team final and individual qualification (Satyajit Mondal, Yogeshwar Singh and Saif Sadik Tamboli), 4.30 p.m.

Hockey: Women's group match: vs. Ghana, 6.30 p.m.

Squash (round-of-64): Women: Anahat Singh vs. Jada Ross (11 p.m.); Men: Abhay Singh vs. Joe Chapman (11.45 p.m.).

Swimming: Heats (from 3 p.m.): Men: 400m freestyle: Kushagra Rawat; 50m butterfly: Sajan Prakash; 100m backstroke: Srihari Nataraj.

Table Tennis: Team event: Women: Qualifying: Round 1: vs. South Africa (2 p.m.); Round 2: vs. Fiji (8.30 p.m.).
Men: Qualifying: Round 1: vs. Barbados (4.30 p.m.); Round 2: vs. Singapore (11 p.m.).

Indian pugilists will look to pack a punch

Panghal, Lovlina and Nikhat likely to have easier outings in their opening bouts

Y.B. SARANGI

Former World championships bronze medallist Shiva Thapa will begin India's boxing campaign at Birmingham with a bout against seven-time Pakistan National champion Suleman Baloch on Friday.

While Thapa (63.5kg) may face some spirited challenge from Suleman, Worlds silver medallist Amit Panghal (51kg), and women boxers Tokyo Olympics bronze medallist Lovlina Borgohain (70kg) and World champion Nikhat Zareen, who reduced her weight to fit in to the 50kg category, are likely to have easier openers.

Lovlina will start against 38-year-old New Zealander Ariane Nicholson on Saturday. But she is likely to face stiffer opposition from 2018 silver medallist Rosie Eccles of Wales in the quarterfinals.

Big draw: World champion Nikhat's campaign will be watched with interest. • FILE PHOTO: K. MURALI KUMAR

Nikhat will meet Mozambique's Helena Bagao on Sunday. If she advances to the quarterfinals, she will meet Helen Jones of Wales.

Last edition's silver medallist Panghal will begin against Namri Berri of Vanuatu on August 1. He may meet Scottish boxer Lennon Mulligan in the last eight.

Mohammad Hussamuddin (57kg), a 2018 bronze medallist, will start against South Africa's Amzolele Dyeyi on Saturday. Hussamuddin may meet Bangladesh's Salim Hossain next and should not face resistance in reaching the medal round.

Asian champion Sanjeet (92kg) will lock horns with last time's silver medallist Ato Plodzicki-Faoagali of Samoa on Saturday. A win will pit him against Grenada's Andy Andall in the last eight.

Olympian Ashish Kumar (80kg) got a bye and will take on Travis Tapatuetoa of Nuie on August 1.

Rohit Tokas (67kg) and Thailand Open champion Sumit Kundu (75kg) also received first round byes. Tokas will meet Ghanaian Alfred Kotey on August 2, while Sumit will face young Australian Callum Peters in the last-16 on Sunday.

India, with three gold, three silver and three bronze, was second behind England in boxing in 2018.

Need to have a ruthless approach, says Harmanpreet

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
BIRMINGHAM

India women's cricket captain Harmanpreet Kaur wants her players to develop the "killing attitude" that champion teams of the past possessed.

India is still some distance away from becoming world-beaters, but all the players who are here for the Commonwealth Games have bought into the idea suggested by all-rounder Pooja Vastrakar during the Sri Lanka tour last month.

Harmanpreet, who began her all-format captaincy stint with the Sri Lanka series, feels a ruthless approach is needed even when the chips are down.

"During the Sri Lanka tour, we had a meeting with the players. I asked the girls how they want the team to play. Pooja gave a good answer about the killing attitude.

"Right now, we are working on that, whether we are training or playing. Everyone is talking about that in the team. All players have bought into this and Pooja is someone who comes up with funny ideas all the time," said Harmanpreet on the eve of the opener against Australia at the Birmingham Games.

Pooja, however, is not part of the team yet as she was forced to stay back in India after returning a positive COVID-19 test a day before the squad's departure for Birmingham.

The finishing touches: Harmanpreet & Co., who begin their campaign on Friday, will look for a podium finish. • PTI

India sweeps series with emphatic win

Rain leaves Gill stranded two short of century; Chahal stifles any Windies hopes

INDIA IN WI

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
PORT OF SPAIN

India underlined its strength with a crushing 119-run victory over the West Indies on the Duckworth-Lewis-Stern method in the rain-effected third and final One-Day International at Queen's Park Oval in Trinidad.

Opener Shubman Gill was left stranded two runs short of a maiden international century as rain ended the visitors' innings at 225 for three off 36 overs batting first.

Set a revised target of 257 off 35 overs, West Indies crumbled to 137 in 26 overs with leg-spinner Yuzvendra Chahal leading the rout with figures of four for 17.

Missing seven first-choice players for this Caribbean journey, India completed a 3-0 sweep and also extended its winning run in ODI campaigns against the West Indies to 12 series.

For the West Indies, which came very close to upsetting India in the first two matches at the same venue, this was a ninth consecutive ODI loss.

Gill, who was named Man-of-the-Match and Man-of-the-Series, played fluently from the outset for a run-a-ball 98, putting on 113 with opening partner and captain Shikhar Dhawan (58) and then 86 with the energetic Shreyas Iyer (44). But he slowed within sight of the elusive three figures and was left frustrated when showers returned to end the innings.

Hayden Walsh was the most successful of the West Indies bowlers with two wickets while fellow spinner Akeal Hosein claimed the other.

Facing a daunting challenge, the hosts were rocked immediately as Mohammed Siraj removed Kyle Mayers and Shamarh Brooks before a run was scored.

Brandon King and captain Nicholas Pooran contributed 42 apiece but it was never going to be enough against a supremely confident Indian side as leg-spinner Chahal enjoyed a late feast to seal a comprehensive triumph.

A praiseworthy habit: India extended its winning run in ODI campaigns against the West Indies to 12 series. • AFP

Spinning a web: Chahal, left, turned it India's way with a spell of four for 17. • AFP

India-WI ODI series in numbers

Batting	M	Runs	HS	Avg.	SR	100s/50s
Gill	3	205	98*	102.50	102.50	0/2
Dhawan	3	168	97	56.00	82.35	0/2
Shreyas	3	161	63	53.66	99.38	0/2
Hope	3	144	115	48.00	77.41	1/0

Bowling	M	Overs	Wkts.	BBI	Avg.	Econ.
Shardul	3	20	7	3/54	17.85	6.25
Chahal	3	23	7	4/17	20.57	6.26
Joseph	2	20	4	2/46	26.75	5.35
Siraj	3	23	4	2/14	29.25	5.08

SCOREBOARD

INDIA

Shikhar Dhawan c Pooran b Walsh 58 *(74b, 7x4)*, Shubman Gill (not out) 98 *(98b, 7x4, 2x6)*, Shreyas Iyer c Paul b Hosein 44 *(34b, 4x4, 1x6)*, Suryakumar Yadav c Brooks b Walsh 8 *(6b, 1x4)*, Sanju Samson (not out) 6 *(7b)*; Extras (lb-1, w-7, nb-3): 11; Total (for three wkts. in 36 overs): 225.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-113 (Dhawan, 22.5 overs), 2-199 (Shreyas, 32.2), 3-211 (Suryakumar, 33.5).

WEST INDIES BOWLING

Holder 6-0-43-0, Seales 7-0-50-0, Paul 6-0-23-0, Hosein 8-0-43-1, Walsh 8-0-57-2, Mayers 1-0-8-0.

WEST INDIES

Shai Hope st. Samson b Chahal 22 *(33b, 1x6)*, Kyle Mayers b Siraj 0 *(1b)*, Shamarh Brooks lbw b Siraj 0 *(2b)*, Brandon King b Axar 42 *(37b, 5x4, 1x6)*, Nicholas Pooran c Dhawan b Prasidh 42 *(32b, 5x4, 1x6)*, Keacy Carty b Shardul 5 *(17b)*, Jason Holder (not out) 9 *(12b)*, Akeal Hosein c Dhawan b Shardul 1 *(6b)*, Keemo Paul c Shardul b Chahal 0 *(4b)*, Hayden Walsh c Dhawan b Chahal 10 *(8b, 2x4)*, Jayden Seales c Gill b Chahal 0 *(4b)*; Extras (b-4, lb-1, w-1): 6; Total (in 26 overs): 137.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-0 (Mayers, 1.1 overs), 2-0 (Brooks, 1.3), 3-47 (Hope, 9.5), 4-74 (King, 13.6), 5-103 (Carty, 18.6), 6-119 (Pooran, 21.2), 7-121 (Hosein, 22.2), 8-123 (Paul, 23.2), 9-137 (Walsh, 25.2).

INDIA BOWLING

Hooda 4-1-16-0, Siraj 3-0-14-2, Axar 6-0-38-1, Prasidh 4-0-30-1, Chahal 4-0-17-4, Shardul 5-0-17-2.

Toss: India.

MoM: Gill; **MoS:** Gill.

India won by 119 runs (D/L method) to clinch series 3-0.

India ready to flex its Twenty20 muscle

West Indies will have a tough task

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
TAROUBA

A full-strength India will be looking to overwhelm the West Indies in its bid to record a clean sweep in the three-match T20I series starting on Friday.

With less than three months left for the T20 World Cup, skipper Rohit Sharma and coach Rahul Dravid will get around 16 games [five vs West Indies, five in Asia Cup (if India plays the final), three vs Australia, three vs South Africa] to firm up the core team.

Intimidating line-up

The mere thought of an XI comprising Rohit, Rishabh Pant, Suryakumar Yadav, Hardik Pandya and Dinesh Karthik in the top six can have an intimidating effect on the opposition.

The five-match series is technically being played in three different countries (Trinidad & Tobago, St. Kitts & Nevis and the USA).

Deepak Hooda has shown that he belongs at this level.

With his tight off-breaks adding to his skill-set, at least three to four good matches in this series will certainly increase Rohit's headache and also put Virat Kohli under pressure when he returns for the Asia Cup in the UAE.

The Pant-Rohit opening pair didn't set the stage on fire against England but statistics often do not provide the real picture.

The left-right combination has shown intent to dominate and with their kind of range could prove to be a nightmare for any opposition.

With Ravindra Jadeja's fitness being an issue and also his growing focus on being a batting all-rounder, R. Ashwin is still India's best slow bowler in the PowerPlay.

Harshal's chance

Jasprit Bumrah and Bhuvneshwar Kumar have established themselves. And, with Hardik Pandya also bowling full tilt, India would be looking to finalise a third specialist pacer.

If Harshal Patel does well in this series, there will be lot of pressure on Deepak Chahar, who is likely to be back for the Asia Cup.

The squads:

India: Rohit Sharma (Capt.), Ishan Kishan, Shreyas Iyer, Deepak Hooda, Suryakumar Yadav, Hardik Pandya, Dinesh Karthik, Ravindra Jadeja, R. Ashwin, Kuldeep Yadav, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Avesh Khan, Harshal Patel, Ravi Bishnoi, Axar Patel and Arshdeep Singh.

West Indies: Nicholas Pooran (Capt.), Shamarh Brooks, Brandon King, Rovman Powell, Keacy Carty, Kyle Mayers, Jason Holder, Gudakesh Motie, Keemo Paul, Shai Hope, Akeal Hosein, Alzarri Joseph and Jayden Seales.

Match starts at 8 p.m. IST.

India-WI H2H in T20Is

Overall	M 20	India 13	WI 6	NR 1
In WI	M 4	India 2	WI 2	NR 0
In USA	M 4	India 2	WI 1	NR 1

THE SCHEDULE

In West Indies: July 29: Tarouba | **August 1 and 2:** Basseterre

In USA: August 6 and 7: Lauderhill

All matches start at 8 p.m. IST

Sri Lanka draws series

PAKISTAN IN SL

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
GALLE

Spinner Prabath Jayasuriya grabbed five wickets as Sri Lanka thumped Pakistan by 246 runs in the second Test to end the series 1-1 here on Thursday.

Chasing a mammoth 508 runs for victory, Pakistan was bowled out for 261 in the second session on the fifth day with skipper Babar Azam hitting a valiant 81.

The 30-year-old Jayasuriya, a left-arm spinner, claimed his fourth five-wicket haul in just his third Test.

Ramesh Mendis, who took five wickets with his off-spin in Pakistan's first innings, wiped off the tail with four more to trigger Sri Lankan celebrations.

The tourists won the opener with a Galle record chase of 342.

SCOREBOARD

Sri Lanka — 1st innings: 378.
Pakistan — 1st innings: 231.
Sri Lanka — 2nd innings: 360/8 decl.
Pakistan — 2nd innings: Abdullah Shafique c Wellalage b Jayasuriya 16, Imam-ul-Haq c Dickwella b R. Mendis 49, Babar Azam lbw b Jayasuriya 81, Mohammad Rizwan b Jayasuriya 37, F. Alam run out 1, Agha Salman c K. Mendis b Jayasuriya 4, Mohammad Nawaz c Chandimal b R. Mendis 12, Yasir Shah c K. Mendis b Jayasuriya 27, Hasan Ali b R. Mendis 11, Nauman Ali (not out) 0, Naseem Shah c Wellalage b R. Mendis 18; Extras (b-2, nb-3): 5; Total (in 77 overs): 261.
Fall of wickets: 1-42, 2-97, 3-176, 4-181, 5-188, 6-205, 7-205, 8-243, 9-243.
Sri Lanka bowling: A. Fernando 6-1-20-0, Jayasuriya 32-5-117-5, R. Mendis 30-7-101-4, de Silva 2-0-4-0, Wellalage 7-0-17-0.
MoM: Dhananjaya de Silva; *Sri Lanka won by 246 runs to draw two-match series 1-1.*

Kim threatens to use nukes in conflicts

Our nuclear war deterrent is ready to mobilise its absolute power dutifully, says North Korean leader

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
SEOUL

North Korean leader Kim Jong-un warned he's ready to use nuclear weapons in potential military conflicts with the U.S. and South Korea, state media reported on Thursday, as he unleashed fiery rhetoric against rivals he says are pushing the Korean Peninsula to the brink of war.

Mr. Kim's speech to war veterans on the 69th anniversary of the end of the 1950-53 Korean War was apparently meant to boost internal unity in the impoverished country amid pandemic-related economic difficulties. While Mr. Kim has increasingly threatened his rivals with nuclear weapons, it's unlikely that he would use them first against the superior militaries of the U. S. and its allies, observers say. "Our armed forces are completely prepared to respond to any crisis, and our country's nuclear war deterrent is also ready to mobilise its absolute power dutifully, exactly and swiftly in accordance with its mission," Mr. Kim said in Wednesday's speech, according to the official Korean Central News Agency.

He accused the U.S. of "demonising" North Korea to justify its hostile policies. Mr. Kim said regular U. S.-South Korea military drills that he claimed target the North highlight U. S. "double standards" and "gangster-like" aspects because it brands North Korea's routine military activities – an apparent reference to its missile tests – as provocations or threats.

Kim Jong-un shaking hands with war veterans during the anniversary event of Korean War in Pyongyang. • AFP

South Korea slammed

Mr. Kim also alleged the new South Korean government of President Yoon Suk Yeol is led by "confrontation maniacs" and "gangsters" who have gone further than previous South Korean conservative governments.

Since taking office in May, the Yoon government has moved to strengthen Seoul's military alliance with the United States and bolster its own capacity to neutralize North Korean nuclear threats including a preemptive strike capability.

"Talking about military action against our nation, which possesses absolute weapons that they fear the most, is preposterous and is very dangerous suicidal action," Mr. Kim said. "Such a dangerous attempt will be punished by our powerful strength and the Yoon Suk Yeol government and his military will be annihilated."

South Korea expressed "deep regret" over Mr. Kim's threat and said it maintains a readiness to cope with any provocation by North Korea in "a powerful, effective manner."

Solid alliance

In a statement read by spokesperson Kang In-sun, Mr. Yoon's presidential National Security Office said South Korea will safeguard its national security and citizens' safety based on a solid alliance with the U.S. It urged North Korea to return to talks to take steps toward denuclearization.

Earlier Thursday, South Korea's Defence Ministry repeated its earlier position that it's been boosting its military capacity and joint defence posture with the United States to cope with escalating North Korean nuclear threats.

Russia steps up strikes on Kyiv amid counterattacks

Moscow is mounting revenge for resistance, says Ukraine

ASSOCIATED PRESS
KYIV

Russian forces launched a missile attack on the Kyiv area for the first time in weeks on Thursday and pounded the northern Chernihiv region as well, in what Ukraine said was revenge for standing up to the Kremlin.

Ukrainian officials, meanwhile, announced a counteroffensive to take back the occupied Kherson region in the country's south, territory seized by Russian President Vladimir Putin's forces early in the war.

Russia attacked the Kyiv region with six missiles launched from the Black Sea, hitting a military unit in the village of Liutizh on the outskirts of the capital, according to Oleksii Hromov, a senior official with Ukraine's General Staff.

A school building damaged by a Russian missile strike in Mykolaiv. • AFP

He said that the attack ruined one building and damaged two others, and that Ukrainian forces also shot down one of the missiles in the town of Bucha.

Fifteen people were wounded in the Russian strikes, five of them civilians, Kyiv Governor Oleksiy Kuleba said. He linked the assaults to the Day of Statehood, a commemoration that President Volodymyr Zelenskyy instituted last year and Ukraine marked for the time on Thursday.

"Russia, with the help of missiles, is mounting revenge for the widespread popular resistance, which the Ukrainians were able to organise precisely because of their statehood," Mr. Kuleba said. "Ukraine has already broken Russia's plans and will continue to defend itself."

Russian troops withdrew from the Kyiv and Chernihiv months ago after failing to capture either. The renewed strikes come a day after pro-Kremlin separatists leader in the east, Denis Pushilin, urged Russian forces to "liberate Russian cities founded by the Russian people – Kyiv, Chernihiv, Poltava, Odesa, Dnipropetrovsk, Kharkiv, Zaporizhzhia, Lutsk."

UNSC condemns Myanmar executions

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
NEW YORK

he UN Security Council has condemned the Myanmar junta's execution of four prisoners, drawing praise on Thursday from a shadow government of ousted Myanmar lawmakers.

In a rare consensus on the post-coup crisis, the Security Council on Wednesday released a statement condemning the executions – Myanmar's first in decades – and calling for the immediate release of ousted leader Aung San Suu Kyi.

"The members of the Security Council condemned the Myanmar military's execution of Opposition activists over the weekend," the Council said.

"They recalled the Secretary-General's statement of July 25, 2022 and echoed his call for the immediate release of all arbitrarily detained prisoners."

The statement was endorsed by Russia and China – the junta's two major allies that have previously shielded it at the UN – as well as neighbouring India.

"Welcome UNSC condemning execution of democracy activists", said the "National Unity Government" (NUG) on a verified Twitter account.

Flood fury

Tough trail: A rescue team at the site of a flash flood and landslip, triggered by heavy rains in northwestern part of Iran's capital Tehran. At least 4 people were killed and 9 injured. • AFP

Plaint against Saudi Prince on Paris visit

ASSOCIATED PRESS
PARIS

A human rights group said it filed a legal complaint with a Paris court on Thursday alleging complicity by Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince – who is visiting France – in the gruesome 2018 killing of U.S.-based Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi.

The Washington-based group, Democracy for the Arab World Now, or DAWN, called on French authorities to launch a criminal investigation on Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman.

French President Emmanuel Macron plans to welcome Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman to his presidential palace and offer him dinner on Thursday, marking another step in the Saudi leader's diplomatic rehabilitation less than four years after the killing of writer Khashoggi.

Mr. Macron's office described the meeting on Thursday evening as "a working dinner."

Japanese lawmakers make rare visit to Taiwan

They seek a deal on defence issues

ASSOCIATED PRESS
TAIPEI

A group of Japanese lawmakers including two former Defence Ministers met with Taiwan's President on Thursday in a rare high-level visit to discuss regional security.

The delegation, led by lawmaker and former Defence Minister Shigeru Ishiba, said it wanted to reach an agreement with Taiwan on defence issues and prepare for any potential conflict in the region, while also seeking to prevent conflict from breaking out.

"We need to think ahead about what kind of situations could happen, what kind of laws and agreements we should prepare, and what kind of armaments we could use," he said. "We need to work together to reach consensus on this ahead of anything that could happen."

Mr. Ishiba noted that Japan is also working closely with the U.S. to prevent conflict in the Indo-Pacific, saying the defence allies "had no choice" but to prepare.

Tensions in the region have risen amid increasing assertiveness of China, whose ruling Communist Party considers democratic, self-ruling Taiwan its own territory, to be annexed by force if necessary.

The group of Japanese lawmakers was welcomed by President Tsai Ing-wen and will also meet with Su Tseng-chang, president of the Executive Yuan, and representatives from Taiwan's Defence Ministry.

"Safeguarding Taiwan is not only about safeguarding sovereignty. It's also because on the issue of strategic safety Taiwan is a very critical line of defence of the first island chain," Ms. Tsai said. "We will continue to deepen our cooperation with Japan and other democratic partners to uphold the Indo-Pacific area's peace and stability."

Mr. Ishiba was accompanied by three other Japanese lawmakers – all members of a cross-party national security group.

6 sentenced to death for 1971 war crimes in Bangladesh

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
DHAKA

Bangladesh's International Crimes Tribunal on Thursday sentenced six members of the infamous paramilitary force 'Razakar Bahini' to death for collaborating with the Pakistani Army for "crimes against humanity" during the 1971 Liberation War.

The three-member tribunal headed by Justice Mohammad Shahinur Islam delivered the verdict.

"They shall be hanged by neck until their death," Justice Islam pronounced, with five of the convicts faced the trial in person, while one convict was tried in absentia.

The six accused include Amjad Hossain Howladar, Sahar Ali Sardar, Atiyar Rahman, Motachim Billah, Kamal Uddin Goldar, and Nazrul Islam. Of them, Nazrul Islam is absconding.

The tribunal officials said the six convicted were members of the "Razakar Bahini," an East Pakistani paramilitary force affiliated to the Pakistan Army.

All the six hailed from southwestern Khulna district, and carried out atrocities such as mass killings, arsons and tortures, the tribunal said.

Defence counsels said they planned to challenge the verdict at the apex Appellate Division of the Supreme Court after consultations with their clients.

The Sheikh Hasina government had set up the war crimes tribunal in 2010.

Facebook fails to block hate speech: report

ASSOCIATED PRESS
NAIROBI

Facebook is letting violent hate speech slip through its controls in Kenya as it has in other countries, according to a new report from the nonprofit groups Global Witness and Foxglove.

It was the third such test of Facebook's ability to detect hateful language – either via artificial intelligence or human moderators.

The ads, which the groups submitted both in English and in Swahili, spoke of beheadings, rape and bloodshed. They compared people to donkeys and goats. Some also included profanity and grammatical errors. The Swahili language ads easily made it through Facebook's detection systems and were approved for publication.

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
HIGHER EDUCATION (EC) DEPARTMENT

NOTIFICATION

Government of Andhra Pradesh invites applications for the post of Vice Chancellor of the Universities mentioned below.

1. Andhra Kesari University, Prakasam District.
2. Dr.YSR Architecture and Fine Arts University, Kadapa (in continuation to the notification Dt.07.06.2022)

For other details, please visit **https://apsche.ap.gov.in** Applications with bio-data filled in the prescribed proforma and other requisite documents may be sent within 20 days from the date of issue of notification by registered post to the following address.

The Chairman,
A.P.State Council of Higher Education,
3rd, 4th and 5th floors, Neeladri Towers,
Sri Ram Nagar, 6th Battalion Road,
Atmakur (V), Managalagiri (M), Guntur - 522503

Date: 29-07-2022
Place: Velagapudi

J. SYAMALA RAO
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

ELECTRICAL BRANCH (GENERAL SERVICES)
CHENNAI DIVISION
E-Tender No. ME-29-PowerCar-Man-21-23RII

The Sr.Divisional Electrical Engineer, General Services, Chennai Division, Southern Railway, IV Floor, NGO Annexe, Park Town, Chennai - 600 003 for and on behalf of the President of India invites ONLINE Open Tenders for the E-Tender No. ME-29-PowerCar-Man-21-23RII for the following work as per Tender Notice issued in E-Tender portal **www.gem.gov.in.** The bidders intending to apply for E-Tender for Works in Chennai Division, need to get enrolled in the aforesaid E-Tender portal and only online tenders will be accepted. The payment towards cost of Tender document and Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) should be made only through online modes like net banking, debit card/credit card etc., available on GeM portal. It is the responsibility of the Tenderer(s) /Contractor(s) to obtain necessary Digital Signature Certificates for participating in the E-tender.

E-TENDER NO	ME-29-PowerCar-Man-21-23RII
GEM BID NO	GEM/2022/B/2382315 dated 27.07.2022
NAME OF THE WORK	Manning and Operation of DA sets in Power cars of Chennai division for a period of three years.
APPROXIMATE COST OF WORK	Rs. 6,44,42,842.10 /- (Rupees Six Crore Forty Four Lakhs Forty Two Thousand Eight Hundred and Forty Two and Paise Ten only)
EARNEST MONEY DEPOSIT	Rs. 4,76,877.00 (Rupees Four Lakhs Seventy Six Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy Seven only)
TENDER BOOKLET COST	Nil
CONTRACT PERIOD	Three Years.
TENDER CLOSING DATE AND TIME	17.08.2022; 15:00 hrs

1. The details of approximate cost of Tender value, EMD, the details of bid submission are furnished in the aforesaid E-Portal.
2. The online bids for tenders floated through the above portal are required to be digitally signed.
3. GST rules applicable from time to time will apply for this E-Tender.

Sr.Divisional Electrical Engineer, General Services
Chennai Division, Southern Railway

Follow us on: twitter.com/GMSRailway

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

E Auction Notice
No J/C, No J/C. E-Auction/VPS/ SLR/Pub/2022. dtd. 27.07.2022.

e auction schedule for Palakkad Division/Southern Railway

The following are the schedule of e auction being started on the corresponding dates as mentioned against each **Category 1.** Vehicle Parking Stand, **Nos.** 6 Stations **Action Starting Date/Time** 16.08.2022/10.00 Hrs. **Category 2.** Out Of Home Advertisement, **Nos.** 6 Stations **Action Starting Date/Time** 16.08.2022/11.30 Hrs. **Category 3.** SLR LEASING. **Nos.** 6 SLR Doors **Action Starting Date/Time** 16.08.2022/14.00 Hrs.

Necessary auction and Help line details available at **www.ireps.gov.in**

Sr.Divisional Commercial Manager, S.Railway, Palakkad.

Follow us on: twitter.com/GMSRailway

TVS MOTOR COMPANY LIMITED

Regd office: "Chaitanya", No. 12, Khader Nawaz Khan Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai 600 006
Website:www.tvsmotor.com Telephone No. (044) 28332115
Fax No. (044) 28332113 Email:contactus@tvsmotor.com
CIN:L35921TN1992PLC022845

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL RESULTS
FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30TH JUNE 2022

(Rs. in Crores)

S. No	Particulars	Standalone			Consolidated		
		Quarter ended		Year ended	Quarter ended		Year ended
		30.06.2022	30.06.2021	31.03.2022	30.06.2022	30.06.2021	31.03.2022
		(Unaudited)		(Audited)	(Unaudited)		(Audited)
1	Total income	6,030.92	3,935.95	20,809.50	7,347.83	4,692.03	24,388.18
2	Net Profit (before Tax, Exceptional items)	432.06	102.33	1,243.37	437.03	33.37	1,106.91
3	Net Profit / (Loss) before tax (after Exceptional items)	432.06	72.17	1,213.21	435.96	(3.37)	1,066.79
4	Net Profit / (Loss) after tax (after Exceptional items)	320.54	53.15	893.56	296.75	(14.72)	730.88
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income / (Loss) (after tax)]	295.42	55.70	829.25	287.13	7.83	733.77
6	Equity share capital (Face value of Re.1/- each)	47.51	47.51	47.51	47.51	47.51	47.51
7	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve)	-	-	4,774.53	-	-	4,351.94
8	Security Premium Account	- NOT APPLICABLE -					
9	Networth	5,123.83	4,210.02	4,804.61	4,628.49	3,704.62	4,324.92
10	Outstanding Debt	1,736.25	1,991.10	1,600.57	16,791.30	12,496.91	15,297.28
11	Outstanding redeemable Preference Shares	- NOT APPLICABLE -					
12	Debt Equity Ratio	0.3	0.4	0.3	3.3	3.0	3.1
13	Earnings Per Share (Face value of Re. 1/- each) (not annualised) (i) Basic (in Rs.) (ii) Diluted (in Rs.)	6.75 6.75	1.12 1.12	18.81 18.81	6.43 6.43	(0.22) (0.22)	15.93 15.93
14	Capital Redemption Reserve	- NOT APPLICABLE -					
15	Debenture Redemption Reserve	- NOT APPLICABLE -					
16	Debt Service Coverage Ratio (Excluding NBFC Subsidiary)	4.3	2.9	5.2	2.2	1.1	3.0
17	Interest Service Coverage Ratio (Excluding NBFC Subsidiary)	12.5	4.4	10.9	7.2	2.7	7.2

Notes:

1. The above is an extract of the detailed format of financial results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulations 33 & 52 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the above financial results are available on the Stock exchange websites (www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com) and on Company's website (www.tvsmotor.com).
2. Figures for the previous periods have been regrouped, wherever necessary, to conform to the current period's classification.

For TVS Motor Company Limited

Date : 28th July 2022

Prof. Sir Ralf Dieter Speth
Chairman

MARKET WATCH

	28-07-2022	% CHANGE
Sensex	56,858	1.87
US Dollar	79.69	0.27
Gold	51,750	1.14
Brent oil	107.71	0.92

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	764.50	1.85
Apollo Hosp	4190.50	64.90
Asian Paints	3272.40	86.35
Axis Bank	725.90	6.95
Bajaj Auto	3858.25	-25.60
Bajaj Finserv	14642.05	1135.00
Bajaj Finance	7076.60	680.25
Bharti Airtel	666.85	-8.05
BPCL	326.05	1.45
Britannia Ind	3869.35	14.80
Cipla	967.45	-6.60
Coal India	202.85	-0.60
Divis Lab	3849.65	63.20
Dr Reddys Lab	4260.05	-26.00
Eicher Motors	3054.00	-3.40
Grasim Ind	1550.60	3.75
HCL Tech	946.10	17.65
HDFC	2337.55	24.20
HDFC Bank	1416.85	12.45
HDFC Life	531.60	10.35
Hero MotoCorp	2780.70	-1.85
Hindalco	392.40	3.75
Hind Unilever	2620.10	38.15
ICICI Bank	814.60	14.10
Indusind Bank	1017.70	37.90
Infosys	1517.40	46.35
ITC	303.45	-0.70
JSW Steel	616.70	14.00
Kotak Bank	1828.50	74.40
L&T	1801.25	4.60
M&M	1149.15	11.05
Maruti Suzuki	8721.05	62.95
Nestle India Ltd.	19112.40	570.50
NTPC	150.35	0.65
ONGC	130.25	1.65
PowerGrid Corp	214.20	3.55
Reliance Ind	2457.10	37.90
SBI Life	1191.45	42.10
State Bank	532.45	4.25
Shree Cement	20415.45	-608.05
Sun Pharma	894.85	0.85
Tata Consumer Products Ltd.	806.60	5.00
Tata Motors	442.25	-1.80
Tata Steel	100.35	4.41
TCS	3260.50	71.65
Tech Mahindra	1038.00	30.35
Titan	2334.65	31.10
UltraTech Cement	6471.25	-64.10
UPL	727.70	6.10
Wipro	416.00	9.35

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on July 28

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	79.56	79.88
Euro	80.60	80.93
British Pound	96.43	96.83
Japanese Yen (100)	58.67	58.91
Chinese Yuan	11.79	11.84
Swiss Franc	82.67	83.01
Singapore Dollar	57.50	57.74
Canadian Dollar	62.04	62.29
Malaysian Ringitt	17.86	17.94
Australian Dollar	55.51	55.74

Source:Indian Bank

IL&FS Group mobilises ₹77.5 crore from 2 exits

MUMBAI

IL&FS Group said it had completed 2 sale transactions under its energy business portfolio at an aggregate consideration of ₹77.5 crore.

Oil refiners' daily fuel price reset seeing worst year yet

Retail price increases, freeze on changes dominating since FY21, data show

VIKAS DHOOT
NEW DELHI

Oil marketing firms, which were allowed to alter retail petrol and diesel prices daily starting June 2017, are having their worst year yet in terms of exercising the price reset option. They have changed fuel prices just six times in the first 111 days of FY23.

Retail fuel prices have been frozen since May 22 after the Centre announced excise duty cuts of ₹8 and ₹6 per litre of petrol and diesel, respectively. Similar tax cuts of ₹5 and ₹10 per litre on the two fuels, announced on November 4, were followed by a record 137-day freeze between November and March.

Slow going: In FY23, till July 20, prices have been raised for both fuels five times and reduced once. • GIRI KVS

The government on Thursday parried members' queries in Parliament about any financial burden arising from these price freezes and whether retail fuel prices were actually linked to the international crude price 'as claimed' by oil marketers.

Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas Rameswar Teli said oil marketers were free to change petrol and fuel prices.

Official data showed petrol prices were frozen for 280 days and diesel for 279 days in FY22, the longest period of inaction since the onset of the daily price reset.

These numbers were 279 and 268 days, respectively, for petrol and diesel in 2020-21. Over those two years, petrol prices were raised 154 times and cut 17 times; diesel prices were increased 149 times and pared 34 times. In FY23, till July 20, prices have been raised for both fuels five times and reduced once.

Between June 2017 and March 2020, diesel prices were raised 393 times, cut 312 times, and left unchanged on 320 days.

U.S. recession fears grow as GDP shrinks

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
WASHINGTON

The U.S. economy contracted for a second straight quarter, government data showed Thursday, adding fuel to recession fears.

Gross domestic product declined at an annual rate of 0.9% in the second quarter, according to the Commerce Department.

The slowdown was largely due to drops in government spending at all levels and in private investment on goods, including autos, and on residential buildings, despite an increase in exports.

But personal consumption expenditures continued to increase, though at a slower rate than the prior quarter, the data showed.

Spectrum auctions to continue on Friday

Bids inch up to ₹1,49,623 cr. on Day 3

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Ashwini Vaishnaw

The Centre has so far received bids worth ₹1,49,623 crore for telecom spectrum put on sale, with the bidding set to continue on Friday.

Telecom Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw on Thursday said 16 rounds of bidding had been completed at the end of Day 3 of the auctions, and the bidding would continue on Friday. The bids have inched up from ₹1,49,454 crore received at the end of the ninth round on Day 2 of the auctions.

"Industry is committed to taking the services to rural areas... we are seeing bidding across all spectrum bands," the Minister told reporters. The bids have crossed expectations of ₹80,000-90,000 crore from the entire auction, as estimated by the Centre and analysts. A total of 72,097.85 MHz of spectrum worth ₹4.3 lakh crore had been put up for sale, with participation seen from four private players – Reliance Jio, Bharti Airtel, Vodafone Idea and Adani Data Network.

TVS Motor Q1 net jumps to ₹321 crore

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

TVS Motor reported standalone net profit jumped more than sixfold to ₹321 crore for the first quarter ended June, as against ₹53 crore in the year-earlier period, on higher sales.

Operating revenue rose 53% to ₹6,009 crore. The auto major said it sold 9.07 lakh units comprising two-wheelers and three-wheelers, including exports, as against 6.58 lakh units in the year-earlier period.

On Thursday, the board approved issuance of non-convertible debentures up to ₹125 crore on a private placement basis. The board also approved the sale of shares of Sundaram Holding USA Inc., subject to shareholders' approval.

Sensex rises almost 2% as finance, IT stocks gain

Rupee strengthens 22 paise vs dollar

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Benchmark stock indices on Thursday surged almost 2% tracking global cues following a 'less aggressive' stance by the U.S. Federal Reserve, which increased interest rates by 75 basis points in an ongoing bid to counter inflation.

The S&P BSE Sensex surged 1,041.47 points, or 1.87%, to 56,857.79, with gains led by financial, technology and realty stocks.

The rupee appreciated 22 paise to 79.69 against the U.S. dollar, tracking the firm trend in domestic equities.

Sensex stocks that gained the most include Bajaj Finance (10.68%), Bajaj Finserv (10.14%), Tata Steel (4.59%), Kotak Bank (4.25%), IndusInd Bank (3.9%) and Infosys (3.14%).

"Markets traded buoyant and gained, tracking firm global cues," said Ajit Mishra, VP, Research, Religare Broking. "Participants took note of the less aggressive stance from the U.S. Fed that resulted in a firm start, which further strengthened as the day progressed."

(With PTI inputs)

RBI sets Oct. 1 deadline for CoF data purge

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Thursday said with effect from October 1, no entity in the card transaction/payment chain, other than card issuers and/or card networks, can store CoF (card on file) data, and any such data stored must be purged.

For ease of transition in respect of transactions where cardholders enter the card details manually at the time of the transaction, the RBI has permitted entities other than card issuer and card network, the merchant or its payment aggregator , to save CoF data for a maximum of transaction date plus 4 days or till the settlement date, whichever is earlier.

Global gold demand slid 8% in April-June : WGC

'Monetary tightening likely headwind'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MUMBAI

Global gold demand has seen a drop of 8% during the April-June period to 948.4 tonnes and going ahead, further monetary tightening and continued dollar strength may pose headwinds, the WGC said.

According to the WGC Gold Demand Trends Q2 2022 report, the total gold demand during the second quarter of 2021 stood at 1,031.8 tonnes.

The year-on-year demand was affected by an increase in gold electronic traded funds (ETFs) outflow, decline in Central banks buying and lower demand from the technology segment, the Council said.

The average gold price during April-June quarter was $1,870 an ounce, without taxes, compared with $1,816 an ounce last year in the international markets, WGC Regional CEO, India, Somasundaram P.R. said.

During the quarter, the overall investment demand slid by 28% to 205.8 tonnes compared with 286.1 tonnes in the same period of 2021.

Dr. Reddy's Q1 net surges on Suboxone pact

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD

Proceeds from a settlement pact with British drugmaker Indivior and its strategy of divesting brands to sharpen focus on core products aided Dr. Reddy's Laboratories in reporting manifold increase in consolidated net profit to ₹1,189 crore for the first quarter.

The $72 million Suboxone settlement and divestment helped the firm cushion the impact of lower COVID product sales, normalisation of Russian inventory build up and Ruble strengthening.

Income from operations declined to ₹4,818 crore (₹4,826 crore), according to the results prepared as per the Indian Accounting Standards.

SPORT

LIVE TELECAST

CWG 2022: Sony Ten 2, 3, Sony Six & Sony Six (SD & HD) & Sony LIV, 1 p.m. onwards
Chess Olympiad 2022: Doordarshan, FIDE & Chessbase India YouTube channels, 3 p.m. onwards
Scotland vs New Zealand: 2nd T20I, FanCode, 7 p.m.
TNPL 2022: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Voot Select, 7.15 p.m.
West Indies vs India: 1st T20I, FanCode & DD Sports, 8 p.m.
F2: Hungary GP (Qualifying): SS Select 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 10 p.m.

IN BRIEF

Pooja Vatsrakar joins Brisbane Heat

BRISBANE

Pooja Vastrakar has signed for Brisbane Heat in the Women's Big Bash League (WBBL), to join Smriti Mandhana and Poonam Yadav. PTI

New Zealand routs Scotland

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
EDINBURGH

Finn Allen and Ish Sodhi produced format-best displays as New Zealand overwhelmed Scotland by 68 runs in the first Twenty20 International here on Wednesday.

Allen's 101, his maiden T20 hundred, was the cornerstone of New Zealand's 225 for five. Leg-break bowler Sodhi took a career-best four for 28.

The scores: New Zealand 225/5 in 20 overs (Martin Guptill 40, Finn Allen 101, James Neesham 30) bt Scotland 157/8 in 20 overs (George Munsey 28, Calum McLeod 33, Chris Greaves 31; Ish Sodhi 4/28).

Vettel decides to quit at end of season

Four-time world champion wants to focus more on family

FORMULA ONE

REUTERS
LONDON

Four-time world champion Sebastian Vettel announced his retirement from Formula One at the end of the season, saying on Thursday his goals had changed and he wanted to focus more on family and interests outside the sport.

The 35-year-old German, who drives for the Aston Martin team, won his titles with Red Bull from 2010-13 and also spent six seasons with Ferrari.

He made the announcement ahead of this weekend's Hungarian Grand Prix, the 13th round of the season and last race before the August break.

Not compatible: Vettel is finding the sport increasingly in conflict with his personal life. • AP

"I hereby announce my retirement from Formula One by the end of the 2022 season," he said in a video statement explaining his reasons on a newly-created Instagram page.

"I love this sport. It has been central to my life since I can remember. But as much as there is life on track, there's my life off track too. Being a racing driver has never been my sole identity.

Vettel, who has become increasingly outspoken on a range of topics from the environment to LGBTQ+ rights, said Formula One was increasingly in conflict with his personal life.

"My goals have shifted from winning races and fighting for championships to seeing my children grow, passing on my values, helping them up when they fall," he said.

Vettel factfile

- **World champion:** 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013
- **Teams:** BMW-Sauber, Toro Rosso, Red Bull, Ferrari, Aston Martin
- **First race:** United States Grand Prix 2007
- **First win:** Italian Grand Prix 2008
- **Last win:** Singapore Grand Prix 2019
- **Wins:** 53; Podiums: 122

Bairstow leads England to victory

Moeen slams England's fastest T20I fifty; Ngidi scalps five

SA IN ENGLAND

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
BRISTOL

Jonny Bairstow's excellent season continued as he made 90 in England's 41-run win over South Africa in the first T20 International here on Wednesday.

Moeen Ali compiled England's quickest T20 fifty, off just 16 balls, in the hosts' 234 for six – their second-highest total at this level behind the 241 for three against New Zealand at Napier in 2019.

But amid the 20 sixes in England's innings, Proteas quick Lungi Ngidi took an excellent five for 39, his career best T20 International figures.

In fine form: Bairstow came up with another match-winning knock on Wednesday. • REUTERS

England's Reece Topley then struck twice, removing Quinton de Kock and Rilee Rossouw, in the second over to reduce South Africa to seven for two.

South Africa was 86 for four in the 10th over, with Reeza Hendricks having made 57 off 33 balls, when Tristan Stubbs hauled them back into the game with a brilliant maiden T20I fifty off just 19 balls, including six sixes.

But with South Africa needing 54 off 18 balls, paceman Chris Jordan conceded just three runs, with Andile Phehlukwayo defeated by several yorkers.

The scores: England 234/6 in 20 overs (Dawid Malan 43, Jonny Bairstow 90, Moeen Ali 52; Lungi Ngidi 5/39) bt South Africa 193/8 in 20 overs (Reeza Hendricks 57, Tristan Stubbs 72; Richard Gleeson 3/51).

MoM: Moeen; *England won by 41 runs to lead three-match series 1-0.*

Prajnesh bows out in last eight

INDIANS ABROAD

SPORTS BUREAU

Top seed Prajnesh Gunneswaran was beaten 3-6, 6-0, 6-4 by Evgeny Philippov in the quarterfinals of the $25,000 ITF men's tennis tournament in Georgia.

In the $25,000 ITF women's event in Nottingham, fourth seed Ankita Raina was beaten 1-6, 6-2, 7-5 by qualifier Amarni Banks of Britain.

Other results: €67,690 Challenger, Segovia, Spain: Doubles (quarterfinals): John Echeverria & Alejandro Moro Canas (Esp) bt Piotr Matuszewski (Pol) & Arjun Kadhe 6-2, 7-6(5).

$15,000 ITF women, Monastir, Tunisia: Pre-quarterfinals: Anastasia Gureva bt Jennifer Luikham 6-2, 6-4.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Samarth stars for Swastic Union (1)

R. Samarth (106 n.o., 57b, 10x4, 3x6) set up an 18-run win for Swastic Union CC (1) against Friends Union CC (1) in the KSCA G. Kasturirangan Memorial T20 tournament here.

The scores:

Swastic Union (1) 175/6 in 20 overs (R. Samarth 106 n.o.) bt Friends Union (1) 157/7 in 20 overs (G.S. Chiranjeevi 33, Prajwal Pavan 44, Rishi Bopanna 30 n.o., Abhilash 3/20).

Bangalore United (1) 153/7 in 20 overs (Sharath Srinivas 37, Samarth Srinivas 52) lost to Social Cricketers 154/2 in 18.2 overs (K.V. Aneesh 60 n.o., Sudhanwa Kulkarni 59 n.o.).

Bangalore Occasionals 144/5 in 20 overs (Niranjan 55) lost to Friends Union (2) 146/5 in 18.1 overs (Aarush Mehrotra 29 n.o., Akhil Balachandra 36 n.o.).

Sir Syed Cricketers 169/6 in 20 overs (Luvnith Sisodia 33, Shrikara 42, B.A. Mohith 30, Nikin Jose 34) bt Rajajinagar Cricketers 162/9 in 20 overs (N. Rohan 73, M.S. Bhandage 3/26).

Swastic Union (2) 190/7 in 20 overs (Naga Bharath 57, B. Dheemanth 39, B. Girish 3/35) bt Zodiac 99/8 in 20 overs (Pavan Yadav 32, Bhuvan Raju 3/20).

Coles 150/7 in 20 overs (Rahul Prasanna 62, G. Harshavardhan 35 n.o.) lost to Modern 151/6 in 18.4 overs (Mohammed Aqib 35, Prithvi Sadanand 58 n.o.).

Chintamani SA 158/9 in 20 overs (Swapnil Shivaji 28, Abdul Majid 46, S.U. Karthik 3/16) bt Jawahar (1) 140/8 in 20 overs (Sourab Muttur 48, Likhit Bannur 3/14).

Moment to savour: KSCA President and former India player Roger Binny and Sai Praneeth at the inauguration of the KSCA inter-club badminton tournament on Thursday. • N. SUDARSHAN

Disha eases past Chingatagere, enters final

Disha Santosh defeated Chingatagere Naveen 6-1, 6-3 in the girls' semifinals of the Nichsolv AITA Super Series under-16 tennis tournament at KSLTA Courts on Wednesday.

The results (semifinals):

Boys: Aradhya Kshitij bt Kristo Babu 6-0, 4-6, 6-3; Sriniketh Kannan bt Yash Panchaxari 6-1, 6-2.

Girls: N. Harshini bt Savitha Bhuvaneswaran 6-4, 6-2; Disha Khandoji bt Chingatagere Naveen 6-1, 6-3.

Akaash, Preemal in the lead

Defending champion Akaash Ashok and J. Preemal grabbed the lead in the men's and women's categories respectively at the sixth Karnataka State Tenpin Bowling Championship at Amoeba.

In Round 2 of the men's category, Akaash recorded a total pinfall of 4744 pins in 24 games.

In the women's category, at the end of Round 1, Preemal scored 1946 pins at an average of 162.17.

Anargya, Aakash emerge champions

Anargya Manjunath won the girls' under-19 title in the Karnataka State-ranking table tennis tournament, organised by the Mysore District Table Tennis Association.

In the boys' final, K.J. Aakash defeated Rohith Shankar.

The results (finals):

Under-19: Girls: Anargya Manjunath bt Yashaswini Ghorpade 6-11, 11-6, 11-8, 14-12, 3-11, 11-9

Boys: K.J. Aakash bt Rohith Shankar 11-9, 14-12, 9-11, 11-2, 11-7.

Forging the future Grand Master Viswanathan Anand is training the new generation • R RAVINDRAN

Vishy's next move

Chess superstar Vishwanathan Anand, who decided against playing the Chess Olympiad currently underway in Mamallapuram, is instead busy mentoring the young Indian team for the big event. What prompted the decision to opt out?

"I have already stopped [playing]," Anand tells us on the sidelines of a chess masterclass recently, "I played this cycle last in 2019 and didn't play in subsequent competitions. My thing is to play occasionally and in some nice tournaments, just to have this knuckles touch with the sense of competition. I don't expect to play the whole year round, to be a full-time professional."

Vishy, as he is fondly called by chess fans, is focussing his energies on grooming the future talents in his favourite sport. "The one big project in my mind is the Westbridge-Anand Chess Academy [which I've been running] for almost two years." Does he have a criteria for choosing pupils? "I look for people who are very young, and already very strong GMs (Grand Masters). Everybody in the academy more or less made that cut; they became GMs very early and as they are young, they have many years to go. I think these are India's strongest juniors now."

- Tarun Murali

The knight rises

16-year-old chess champ Praggnanandhaa on the buzz around his favourite sport thanks to the ongoing 44th Chess Olympiad

:: SRINIVASA RAMANUJAM

"All the best, Praggnanandhaa," screams a man from inside his car, even as he navigates peak hour traffic.

The 16-year-old reticent chess champion grins sheepishly and gives a quick thumbs up. At Chennai's Napier Bridge, a city landmark that has been painted a striking black and white to promote the Chess Olympiad 2022, Praggnanandhaa does not draw a mob of fans. But he does make heads turn, with many recognising him and requesting selfies.

All this is very new to the young superstar of Indian chess, but he acknowledges the recognition patiently. "I was on the other side not long ago," he says, "Growing up dreaming to make it big in chess, I vividly remember the times of taking pictures with Garry Kasparov and Viswanathan Anand. There's also a special photo that I took with Carlsen (Magnus Carlsen) when he visited India."

Praggnanandhaa – or Pragg, as most people call him – is basking in the love and support that the sport he's most passionate about is receiving. "It is overwhelming that the Olympiad is happening right here at home; it feels like a festival," says the sportsman, who, in 2016, made history by becoming the youngest international grandmaster. He takes much pride in the fact that awareness about chess is at an all-time high now. "This [Chess Olympiad 2022] will not only result in new players taking it up, but also encourage many people who have once played it but discontinued it due to other commitments to re-start. For professional players, it means better and bigger opportunities. It is certainly a big boost for Indian chess."

A fine balance

In the build up to the highly anticipated event, Pragg has already completed two intense training camps in Chennai. Besides, he will draw richly from the experience of two successful international tournaments in recent times; Pragg won the Paracin Open in Siberia just a few weeks back, and performed well at the Chessable Masters in May. While in-person events are his favourite, the chess prodigy has also been digging online chess in the last few years. "After lockdowns, online chess has seen a phenomenal growth. Even world champions started participating in such online tournaments. I too took to it, and it has been a great experience. Now, with many live events starting to happen, I am trying to maintain a balance between them and online events."

Vishwananthan Anand, he says, has been a pillar of support. By guiding him and playing private chess games for practise, the 52-year-old has helped Praggnanandhaa grow. "He has always been analysing my games. My coach, RB Ramesh, and Anand sir keep discussing my play, and that gives me a lot of happiness."

Pragg acknowledges that all this success and fame would not have been possible without corporate support – Ramco Group has pitched in from his initial playing days – or the encouraging words of his parents, Rameshbabu and R Nagalakshmi. "As a child, whenever I got bored during games, my *amma* motivated me, and accompanied me for international tournaments lest I feel homesick." There's another person in the household who has played a key role in his eventful journey: his sister, Vaishali, who herself is now an International Master in chess. Praggnananda's sporting journey started thanks to her; as a three-year-old, he would knock over all the chess coins she was playing with, thus prompting their parents to get him a board of his own.

Even today, when they're home, the siblings indulge in a friendly game or two. "We love playing bullet games. It's a format where we make really quick moves," he says, pausing to add, "Think of it like a super over in cricket."

So, who wins those games? "Well, we keep beating each other."

All the right moves Praggnanandhaa at Chennai's Napier Bridge; (left) with sister Vaishali and mother R Nagalakshmi • JOHAN SATHYADAS

Paws for effect

The actor says an OTT release will only expand the reach of *777 Charlie*

:: SHILPA ANANDRAJ

Think cinema and innovation today and you promptly think of Rakshit Shetty. The actor, who saw success with films such as *Kirik Party* is known for treading both the commercial and offbeat path with equal ease. That is not all, Rakshit has never hesitated to portray unusual roles on screen and we have seen it in films like *Thuglak*, *Ulidavaru Khandante*, *Ricky*, *Godi Banna Sadharana Mykattu*.

Now the actor is not only celebrating the success of his latest film *777 Charlie*, but its release (after a successful stint in the theatres) on Voot Select today. The actor talks to *MetroPlus* about the film, its making and the OTT release.

Creator and strategist Rakshit Shetty during the OTT promotions of the film • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

FRIDAYREVIEW

Did you expect *777 Charlie* to become this big?

● Honestly, yes. The film was completed almost one-and-half-years ago. We wondered if we should wait for a theatrical release or go direct for an OTT release. But, once I watched the film, I was sure it had to be a theatrical release. So we waited for the right time and then released it; I was confident this theme would click with audiences.

Kiran Raj is a new director. How did you put your trust in his idea?

● Kiran worked with me in *Kirik Party* and *Ricky*. He is one of the most passionate and dedicated assistant directors I have ever worked with. So when he pitched this story to me, there was no doubt for Paramvah to produce the film.

Just before *777 Charlie* hit the screens, many star-driven, Kannada films were released in multiple Indian languages. Did you feel threatened by that? Especially as there was also no major publicity for *777 Charlie*

● The films that made their mark in all five languages were mass-driven films. *777 Charlie* is a niche film. We know there are dog lovers across the country and we wanted to tap into that market. We also knew that the usual publicity methods would not have worked for this film.

All we wanted was to let people know that this was a movie about a dog and the audiences who saw it started advertising for it through word of mouth. That is what we expected. We also did 21 premier shows across the country before the film released so people would talk about it. And because of this we got our first full house in theatres.

We heard you gave away 10% of the film's profits to the film unit....

● We had done this for *Kirik Party* too, before *777 Charlie*. We, at Paramvah, believe that if a film makes money, then everyone who has worked for it should also make money. I believe in the kind of energy that people bring in when we work together. It also makes everyone a part of the film's success or failure too. That was the idea behind sharing the profits amongst crew members too.

Did you know that there was an increase in pet adoption after *777 Charlie*?

● Pet adoption was also one of our intentions even as we got into shooting. The other aim was to encourage people to adopt Indie dogs and not buy dogs.

If even 100 people adopt an Indie dog after watching *777 Charlie*, the film has definitely served its purpose.

> If even 100 people adopt an Indie dog after watching *777 Charlie*, the film has definitely served its purpose.

How do you feel about the film releasing on Voot Select?

● I am happy about this association with Voot Select. I also believe that once a film comes on an OTT platform, its reach also increases. The OTT platform gets an increased subscription and the film reaches a wider audience. This works for both parties.

Wave maker

12-year-old Dhinidhi Desinghu breaks 13-year-old swimming record

:: R PRANAV

• MURALI KUMAR K

Bengaluru's Dhinidhi Desinghu has been making waves in the swimming circuit. The 12-year-old rose to prominence last year when she set national records in the 100m freestyle, 200m freestyle and 200m individual medley at the Junior and Sub-Junior National Aquatic Championship.

This year, she has kept up her gold-winning performances, bagging three gold medals in the Karnataka Mini Olympics in May and following it up with three more golds at the Karnataka Junior and Sub-Junior Aquatic Championship, including a recording-breaking effort in 100m freestyle (59.64 seconds) that rewrote a 13-year-old record.

It all started for Dhinidhi as a leisure activity. "I started swimming just for fun during my summer vacation," she says. Her talent and capabilities were noticed immediately and she was encouraged to take it up seriously.

One of the things Dhinidhi focusses on is not overthinking a race. "You have to be excited to swim and not be nervous about your performance. You have to enjoy it. Thinking too much about a race can make a huge difference in your timing."

The youngster has the tough task of balancing her academics and swimming commitments. "It is a bit more stressful as my academic workload has increased since the previous year, but I am able to cope," says Dhinidhi, a Grade 7 student at Kendriya Vidyalaya DRDO in CV Raman Nagar.

Her father Desinghu aims to keep her level-headed. "We keep telling her that what she has achieved is not a small thing, but there still is a long way to go," he says.

Dhinidhi's coach Madhu Kumar highlights her hard-working attitude. "She is far more serious about her goals than other athletes her age," he says.

Immersive Art Festival

A thumbnail of Vishwanath's E-Waste Starry Night looks like a crayon version of the original by Vincent van Gogh. As you enlarge the image, however, you see the colours are from electronic scraps arranged to imitate the iconic painting. This is just one of the many artworks that will be on display for two months at the Ministry of Now Immersive Art Festival, beginning on July 31 at the Bangalore Creative Circus (BCC), Yeshwanthpur.
Presented by Greenlane, a sustainability-promoting organisation, Ministry of Now will feature an exhibition-cum-sale of local artists who work across media.The launch on Sunday will feature live music, film screenings, wellness experiences and more. Launch event tickets at razorpay.com/ministryofnow. *For details, contact 9727582092 or 8296105847.*

The cost: A private residential layout in Thotada Guddadahalli village that will be lost to the proposed Peripheral Ring Road project, (middle) residents of Thotada Guddadahalli who will be impacted by the project, and (right) the farm of a resident of Anchepalya that will be acquired for the project. • K. MURALI KUMAR

Many issues like stiff resistance from land owners, legal hurdles, environmental impact, and changes in the plan are hindering the progress of the project

Rough road ahead for PRR project

IN FIGURES

Length of PRR: 73.5 km

Lanes: 8

Width of the road: 100 metres

Land required: 1,036.51 hectares

Government land: 114.2 hectares

Kharab land: 43.43 hectares

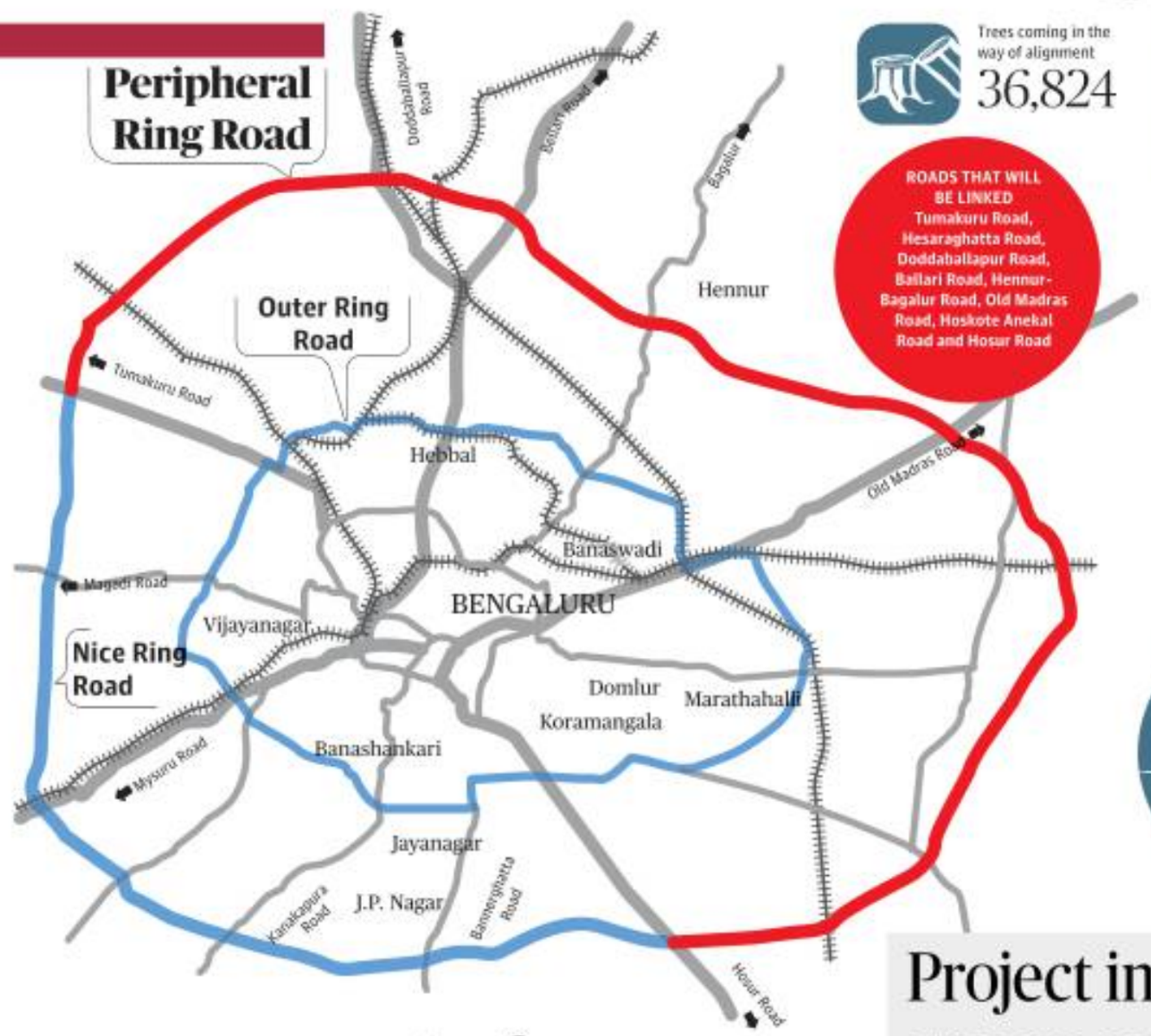
Private land: 555.57 hectares

Number of villages through which alignment passes: 78

PROJECT COST: ₹14,934 crore (this includes ₹ 9,318 crore for land acquisition and rehabilitation)

Structures identified for demolition: 1,433 are houses and commercial establishments

Population of villages through which alignment passes: 6.06 lakh



Trees coming in the way of alignment: 36,824

ROADS THAT WILL BE LINKED: Tumakuru Road, Hesaraghatta Road, Doddaballapur Road, Ballari Road, Hennur-Bagalur Road, Old Madras Road, Hoskote Anekal Road and Hosur Road

13,355 trees located in Thippagondanahalli reservoir catchment area and 631 trees falling in Jarakabande reserve forest

About 20.9 km alignment passes through notified T.G. Halli catchment area where Kumudavathy and Arkavathy river sub-catchment areas exist

The project involves diversion of 7.91 ha of forest land belonging to Jarakabande Kaval reserve forest

The project alignment is 7.21 km away from the Bannerghatta National Park and 1.49 km from the Puttenahalli lake bird conservation reserve

LAKES THAT ARE GOING TO BE IMPACTED

Jarakabande lake
Thirumenahalli lake
Gunjur lake
Chikkathoguru lake
Chikkabanahalli lake
Chinnaganahalli lake

Many farmers stare at uncertain future

A major hurdle to implementing the project is fixing the compensation package for the land required

SUCHITH KIDIYOOR
BENGALURU

The land notified at Bylakere for the proposed Peripheral Ring Road project. • K. MURALI KUMAR

The floating of a global tender for the Peripheral Ring Road project by The Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) has made Ponnappa B.C., a retired government employee, very anxious. Investing his life savings, two years ago, he bought a site and built a house with the hope that he would spend his retired life peacefully. Now, he is staring at an uncertain future, fearing that the project would take away everything.

The project has also left many farmers worried. Krishnappa H.V., a farmer in Hanumanthsagara, whose 2 acres of land was notified for acquisition, said, "I have over 100 coconut trees, jackfruit, areca nut and trees of other species. Ever since our land was notified for the project, we are leading a life of uncertainty. Farmers struggled to meet bulk expenses, like for their children's marriage, medicines, etc., as they could not sell a portion of the land or do other transactions. People were also deprived of getting government subsidies for agricultural activities all these years. After causing all kinds of hardships, now after a gap of 17 to 18 years, the BDA wants to take up the project again but at what cost?"

Some of the farmers who have properties off Tumakuru Road near Anchepalya say many of them whose land were acquired for the NICE project are still fighting for compensation and the proposed PRR will take away whatever remains.

The BDA recently floated the tender for the project for the second time to build a 73.5 km road (eight lanes), connecting Tumakuru Road with Hosur Road by integrating it with NICE Road. The project was proposed in 2005-06, but remained on paper all these years.

Factors for delay

There are various factors for delay in the implementation of the project: stiff resistance from the land owners, legal hurdles, environmental impact, changes in the plan, among others. Successive governments made tall claims about implementing the project. The cabinet giving "approval" for the project, and the PRR finding a mention in State Budgets, did not surprise many.

During the pandemic, the BDA held a public hearing on the project, but the validity of the virtual public hearing held on September 23, 2020, was challenged in the High Court of Karnataka and the court had ordered the BDA to hold a fresh hearing. Meanwhile, the BDA also took a decision to change the alignment of the road: the length of the road increased from 65.5 km to 73.5 km and the extent of the land required jumped from 733 to 1036.51 hectares.

Mid-July, the BDA held a public hearing as per the revised draft Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report with tight police security. Around 70 people took part in the public hearing organised by the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB). Demand for fair compensation, the toll on the green cover on the outskirts, various flaws, and violation of rules in taking up the project were highlighted by the participants.

Compensation package

One of the major hurdles for implementing the project is fixing the compensation package for the land required for the project. The BDA officials have been maintaining that as per the Supreme Court order, the land acquisition will be carried out as per the BDA Act, 1976, and the 2013 Act on the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement is not applicable as demanded by the farmers. Farmers had carried out multiple protests in the past demanding fair compensation.

Kishore Kumar, a farmer said, "We will not agree to the compensation fixed as per BDA Act. When people parted with their land for metro projects, Highway projects, and KIADB acquisition for industrial layouts, they received good compensation. Why are we forced to agree to the BDA Act? The BDA is responsible for the inordinate delay in implementing the project. Why are we paying the price for that? If the BDA cannot protect the interest of farmers, let them drop the project." As per the EIA report, the project cost is ₹14,934 crore, out of which ₹9,318 crore is required for land acquisition.

Cabinet's call

The BDA was forced to scrap the previous tender floated for the project after the investors, in a pre-bidding meeting, raised questions concerning the land acquisition and sought more time to "study" the project. The BDA has been waiting for the State Government to give direction on fixing compensation. A source in the BDA said, "The State cabinet has to take a decision on fixing compensation. We are hoping that it will happen in the coming days."

The BDA wants to implement the project under public private partnership (PPP) model of design, build, finance, operate and transfer (DBFOT). The private investor or concessionaires have to bear the land acquisition and road construction costs. As per the Cabinet decision taken in February, the investor will have a lease period of 50 years to collect the toll.

The BDA has been making tall claims that the proposed PRR would help decongesting city traffic, offer easy access to Kempegowda International Airport (KIA), better connectivity to national highways and state highways on the outskirts, act as bypass for inter-State traffic, and offer enhanced connectivity between rural and urban areas of north and eastern parts of the city. However, PRR is not the only project that envisages easing city traffic and providing better links to the Bengaluru airport.

For instance, the Karnataka Road Development Corporation Limited (KRDCL) is implementing multiple road projects on the outskirts that include Hoskote Budigere cross to Bengaluru airport, Nelamangala to Chikkamadhure to Devanahalli, and Bannerghatta to Hoskote via Attibele-Sarjapur and Whitefield. The KRDCL claims that these road projects are at an advanced stage.

On the other hand, National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) is implementing Bengaluru Satellite Town Ring Road for a distance of 280 km connecting points such as Dobbaspet, Devanahalli, Hoskote, Attibele, Kanakpura, Ramangara, Magadi and others. The project will be implemented under the Bharatmala Pariyojana scheme with an investment of over ₹15,000 crore.

The proposed ring road will also connect Bengaluru-Chennai expressway. The road from Dobbaspet to Hoskote is under construction. This road is likely to benefit air passengers travelling to the Bengaluru airport in a big way.

Barring these road projects, the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) is building a metro network to Bengaluru airport under phase II A & B of Namma Metro for a distance of 55 km from Silk Board to the airport. There is also a proposal to extend the metro till Hosur in Tamil Nadu. On the other hand, the K-RIDE (Rail Infrastructure Development Company (Karnataka) Limited) will build the suburban rail network for a distance of 148 km on four corridors that will also connect points such as Devenahalli, Chikkabanavara, Heelalige, Rajankunte, Whitefield, Kengeri and others.

Dattatraya T. Devare, trustee of Bangalore Environment Trust, said, "One page in the EIA report talks about the benefits of the PRR. It reads like a novel. There are no figures and no quantified benefits given about the PRR. I would really like to know what PRR is going to fulfil and which other projects such as STTR, Bengaluru surrounding road projects and extension of metro are not going to fufil. I do not doubt the project, but somebody has to conclusively prove the need for the project."

Project impact makes greens see red

Forest land in Jarakabande Kaval may be affected

Jarakabande forest in north Bengaluru. • K. MURALI KUMAR

SUCHITH KIDIYOOR
BENGALURU

The Peripheral Ring Road (PRR) project, if implemented, will take a huge toll on the environment. As per the environment impact assessment (EIA) report, a total of 36,824 trees will make way for the project.

The number of trees identified to make way for the project increased after the BDA changed the alignment and decided to acquire 750 acres of additional land. In 2020, the BDA had estimated that 33,833 trees would make way for building the 65 km road. After realignment of the road, the length of the road increased to 73.5 km. The report states that out of 36,824 trees coming in the way of the project, 13,355 trees fall in the Thippagondanahalli (T.G. Halli) reservoir catchment area and 631 trees fall in the Jarakabande reserve forest.

As per the plan, about 20.9 km of the proposed alignment passes through the Thippagondanahalli reservoir catchment area where Kumudavathy and Arkavathy river sub-catchment exists. The EIA report listed out several 'anticipated impacts' of the project in T.G. Halli catchment area.

"Disposal of sewage and solid waste from labour camps and construction waste are the predominant sources of pollution in the catchment area. Removal of 4,925 trees (excluding 7,113 eucalyptus trees) affects the hydrological regime and water quality in the catchment area. Deposition of dust, dumping of earthworks, debris, affects the quality of water and may cause blockage of existing drainage in the catchment area," states the report. To implement the project, diversion of 7.91 hectares of forest land in Jarakabande Kaval reserve forest is also required. Jarakabande Kaval is a prominent green patch located in northern part of the city. The forest attracts hundreds of visitors. Last year, the state government's proposal to open a tree park in Jarakabande Kaval forest had received stiff resistance.

The alignment of the PRR is located 7.21 km from the boundary of Bannerghatta National Park and 1.49 km from Puttenahalli Bird Conservation Reserve. The important avifaunal species recorded are darters, painted storks, black-crowned night herons, purple herons, pond herons, egrets, Asian openbill storks, Eurasian spoonbills, spot-billed pelican, little grebe, little cormorant, spot-billed ducks, purple moorhen and other water birds. The EIA report states that observations of endangered and migratory birds from the northern Himalayas and Siberia have also been made.

Environmentalist A.N Yellappa Reddy said, "It is very unfortunate that by diluting the laws, the state government is paving way for destruction of trees, including in the green belt, which was earlier notified. Allowing construction work in T.G. Halli catchment area will go against nature. Jarakabande Kaval losing trees for the project is very disturbing. Over the years, hundreds of saplings were planted of various species, increasing the green cover, but now, they are becoming victims of development." The report states that out of 36,824 trees, a total of 1,550 trees possessing cultural values such as Arali mara, Alada mara, Attimara, Hunase mara, Nerale, Bilvapatra, Bevu and Nelli with GBH more than 200 cm (girth measurement) are recorded.